





BY JAMES MONTGOMERY.

The God of harvest praise;  
In loud thanksgiving, raise  
Land, heart, and voice;  
The valleys laugh and sing,  
Forests and mountains ring,  
The plains their tribute bring,  
The streams rejoice.

O food for man and beast,  
 Jehovah spreads a feast,  
 Above, beneath;  
 Ye herds and flocks, draw near,  
 Fowls, ye are welcome here;  
 His goodness crowns the year  
 For all that breathe.

Garden and orchard ground,  
 Autumnal fruits have crown'd;  
 The vintage glows;  
 Here plenty pours her horn,  
 There the full tide of corn,  
 Sway'd by the breath of morn,  
 The land o'erflows.

The wind, the rain, the sun,  
 Their genial work have done;  
 Wouldst thou be fed,  
 Man, to thy labor bow,  
 Thrust in the sickle now,  
 Reap where thou once didst plow,  
 God sends thee bread.

Thy few seeds scatter'd wide,  
 He hath so multiplied,  
 That thou mayest find  
 Christ's miracles renewed;  
 With self-producing food,  
 He feeds a multitude—  
 He feeds mankind.

The God of harvest praise;  
 Hands, hearts, and voices raise  
 With sweet accord;  
 From field to garner throng,  
 Bearing your sheaves along,  
 And in your harvest song,  
 Bless ye the Lord.

Yea, bless his holy name,  
 And your souls' thanks proclaim  
 Through all the earth;  
 To glory in your lot  
 Is comely—but be not  
 God's benefits forgot  
 Amidst your mirth.

CUMMINGTON, Mass.—This town will be ever known as the birth-place of one of the first poets of our land. It was here that the early days of Wm. C. Bryant were spent, and here he breathed the mountain air and sent forth his first poetic verses. The old mansion yet stands, and when passed, is pointed out as the birth place of the first poet of the land. Near this old mansion is the birth place of the ex-lieut. Gov. Bradish, now a resident of your city. He in his early days emigrated to your State, so that few are to him known hereabout. Gideon Lee formerly made and mended boots and shoes in these diggings, though he was born farther east; but from here he emigrated to your city. Also the celebrated law writer, Willard Phillips, of Boston, was a native of this town, and after living here to adult years, he went through Harvard College, and has gone up along on the high ladder of fame, honored and to be honored. From his history a lesson can be learned by the young man, that it is not birth, but personal effort, that makes the man.—*Cor. Jour. of Com.*

At the evening time it shall be Light.

BY MRS. SIGOURNEY.

Walk with the Lord at morn,  
 When every scene is fair,  
 While opening buds the boughs adorn,  
 And fragrance fills the air;  
 Before the rosy dawn awake,  
 And in thy being's pride,  
 Thy first young blush of beauty, make  
 Omnipotence thy guide.

Walk with the Lord at noon,  
 When fervid suns are high,  
 And Pleasure, with her treacherous boon,  
 Allureth manhood's eye;  
 Then with the diamond shield of prayer,  
 Thy soul's oppressors meet,  
 And crush the thorns of sin and care  
 That bind the pilgrim's feet.

Walk with the Lord at eve,  
 When twilight dews descend,  
 And nature seems a shroud to weave,  
 As for some smitten friend;  
 While slow the lonely moments glide,  
 On the mournful wing away,  
 Press closer, closer, to his side,  
 For he shall be our stay.

## HOME.

O who can forget the delightful abode,  
Where the days of his childhood have joyously  
flowed ;  
Not the shores of fair Greece or the ruins of  
Rome  
Could give me such pleasure as a view of  
sweet home.

The song of the bird still resounds in my ear,  
The peep of the frog, that I then loved to hear,  
The babbling brook, with its rocks and its  
foam,  
Where I baited the trout when I lived at sweet  
home.

How pleasant the meadow, the mountain and  
grove,  
Where oft my young footsteps delighted to  
rove,  
The sweet scented orchard arrayed in its  
bloom ;  
I long to behold thee, loved Eden of home !

Dear sisters, dear brothers, how merry the day,  
When we loved, and we laughed, and ne'er  
tired of our play ;  
And O, the bright evenings when winter had  
come,  
With the story and song, and the mirth of  
sweet home.

In the night's airy visions I live my life o'er,  
And oft is my thumb on the latch of the door,  
I wake—but the phantom departs in the  
gloom—  
I'm still far away from the friends of sweet  
home.

O, cold is the heart does not leap at the sound,  
And wayward the feet never homeward are  
bound ;  
When through the lone desert or city I roam,  
In joy and in grief, still I think of sweet home.

O, who can forget the delightful abode,  
Where the days of his childhood have joyously  
flowed ;  
Unwept let me die and descend to the tomb,  
When I cease to remember my home, my  
sweet home !

S. G.

THE  
TWENTIETH  
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
AMERICAN SOCIETY

FOR

Colonizing the Free People of Colour

OF

THE UNITED STATES,

WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING,

DECEMBER 13, 1836.

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WASHINGTON:

JAMES C. DUNN, PRINTER.

1837.



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# REPORT.

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SINCE its last anniversary, JAMES MADISON, President of this Society and late President of the U. States, has descended to the tomb. Were it proper, it would be impossible within the limits of this occasion to enumerate the virtues, or present a sketch, however brief, of the character of this great and venerable man. His character, his virtues are before the world; both have, since his decease, been exhibited by our ablest, our most eloquent citizens to the admiration of his Country; and the honours which covered him in the high stations he successively filled are now gathering in unfading purity and brightness around his monument. On this monument may be inscribed "the Friend, the Patron, the President of the American Colonization Society."

Mr. Madison, like Judge Marshall, (to whose memory the Managers paid an humble tribute in their last Report) had contemplated the scheme of African Colonization not merely in its direct and immediate effects, but in its indirect and, if more remote, more extended and beneficial consequences; and in his letter of December 1831, addressed to the Secretary of the Society, he gave it as his opinion "that many circumstances seemed to concur in brightening the prospects of the Society, and cherishing the hope that the time will come when the dreadful calamity which has so long afflicted our country and filled so many hearts with despair, will be gradually removed, and by means consistent with justice, peace and the general satisfaction; thus giving to our country the full enjoyment of the blessings of liberty and to the world the full benefit of its great example."

He regarded (as did also the late Chief Justice of the U. States) the object of the Society as "of a truly national character," and in contemplating the pecuniary resources needed for the removal of such a number of persons to so great a distance, had with him, long turned his thoughts and hopes to the rich fund presented in the Western Lands of the Nation. It is known, he observes, that distinguished patriots not dwelling in slave-holding states would be willing to let the national domain be a resource in effecting it. "Should it be remarked," he adds, "that the States, though all may be interested in relieving our country from the coloured population, are not equally so; it is but fair to recollect, that the sections most to be benefited are those whose cessions created the fund to be disposed of."

Desirous as was Mr. Madison to secure to the enterprise of the Society the favor and treasure of the Government of the Union, he was not disposed to withhold from it, while left dependent upon private bounty, his individual contributions. Several large donations testified to his interest in the Society, and the paper on which his last wishes are recorded directs that a munificent bequest from his estate should be applied to its benefit.

Mr. Madison sunk gently to his final rest at Montpelier, his seat in Orange County, Va. on the 28th of June, at the age of eighty five-years. To the last, it has been said, "his mind retained all its power and his temper all its cheerfulness."—While his great name will ever be associated with the Constitution of his country and admired by the successive generations whose freedom this Constitution overshadows and defends; while the light of his example, serene yet brilliant, will illuminate the pathway of our future statesmen, teaching them the virtues that adorn and the wisdom that exalts; the people of another race, another complexion, and another country, forming their political institutions after the model of those which he so powerfully contributed to establish, will acknowledge their debt, and stand through all time the living witnesses to his philanthropy.



The Board record with grief the decease of two of the revered Vice-Presidents of the Society, the Right Rev. Bishop WHITE and ROBERT RALSTON, Esq. of Philadelphia. Of different communions in the Christian Church, yet of one spirit, they were alike, if not singularly eminent, for the simplicity and sweetness of their manners, the purity of their lives, the fervour of their piety, the extent of their benevolence and the power of their example. To Bishop White, probably more than to any other individual, is the Episcopal Church in this country indebted for its organization, peace and prosperity; than Mr. Ralston, the Charitable Institutions of the age had no firmer or more generous friend; both were friends and benefactors of this Society, and in expressing their sense of the loss which humanity and religion have sustained by their death, the Managers but respond to the voice of widespread bereavement and general public regret.

In submitting to the Society a concise statement of their proceedings during the year, the Managers commence with an account of expeditions.

#### EXPEDITIONS.

The Brig Luna, Capt. Bears, having on board eighty emigrants and two recaptured African children, under the care of the U. States Government, with liberal supplies of provisions, agricultural implements and trade goods, sailed from Norfolk, Virginia, on the 3d of March, and completed her voyage on the 7th of April. Of these emigrants forty-four were manumitted, on the condition of Colonization, by the will of the late General Blackburn of Staunton, Virginia; seven by the late Rev. John Allemong; and five by the late Mrs. Washington of Frederick county, Virginia; while four were emancipated by the Rev. C. W. Andrews of Frederick county; six by the late Jedediah Atkinson of Petersburg; seven by Thomas S. King, Esq. of Portsmouth; one by Mr. Davidson of Charlotte county; one by Mr. S. O. Moon of Albemarle county, Virginia; and two by M. A. McNeill of Mecklenburg, North Carolina. Several others were free persons of colour from Norfolk. A num-

ber that were expected (as stated in the last Report) failed to embark in this expedition. Most of this company were young men, several of them preachers of the Gospel, and one a minister and Missionary of the Methodist Church, the Rev: Beverly R. Wilson, well known to many of our countrymen as having after a visit and examination of the Colony during fourteen months, returned to the United States for the purpose of concluding a final settlement of his affairs in Virginia and removing with his entire family to Liberia. His statements concerning the Colony, made in sundry places and before large audiences in the Northern and Middle States, convinced many that the scheme of African Colonization merited their decided and earnest support. The effects of these impressive statements were manifest at the time, and we doubt not will be permanent.

The Schooner Swift left New Orleans on the 28th of April, with forty-three emigrants, recently emancipated, mostly from the State of Mississippi, and arrived (after a long passage of 46 days) at Monrovia on the 7th of July. Among these were about twenty slaves liberated for Colonization by Edward B. Randolph, of Lowndes county, Mississippi. The expenses of this expedition were paid by the Mississippi Colonization Society, assisted by an advance of \$2500 by the liberal Executor (James Railey, Esq.) of the estate of the late James Green, by whose will provision was made for the manumission of a part of his slaves (26 in number, whose removal to the Colony was mentioned in the last Report) and the application of a generous portion of his large estate to aid the object of the Society. A majority of these emigrants were young, accustomed to labor on plantations in the South, and well furnished with the utensils and stores necessary to a comfortable settlement, and the successful cultivation of the soil, in the Colony. They are represented as intelligent, moral and industrious, several of them adorning by their lives their professions of christian faith, and all as inclined before their departure from our shores to organize themselves into a Temperance Society on the principle of total abstinence from ardent spirits.

The emigrants by the *Luna* were landed at Monrovia, but subsequently removed to a new settlement on the Junk river, called Marshall, after the late Chief Justice of the United States. The Managers regret to add that soon after their arrival, the fever of the country prevailed among these emigrants, and that several of them fell victims to the disease.

The company by the *Swift* proceeded forthwith to Millsburg, about twenty miles from the coast, on the river St. Paul's, a settlement enjoying great advantages for health and agricultural pursuits.

A select company of emigrants is now preparing to sail in the *Brig Rondout*, chartered by the Society, from Wilmington, North Carolina. These people are from Virginia and North Carolina, and among those from the latter State is Lewis Sheridan, a free man of colour of respectability, education and property, who goes accompanied by his family and a number of his relatives, with the means and the view of devoting his time and exertions to the developement and improvement of the Agricultural resources of Liberia.

There will also go in this vessel, eighteen coloured persons, consisting of men, women and children, late the property of Dr. Shuman, of Stokes county, North Carolina, who not only generously manumitted them that they might go to Africa, but also gave them one thousand dollars in money, to be employed in their comfortable establishment in the Colony of Liberia.

The *Brig Luna*, Capt. Hallet, with eighty-four emigrants, fifty of whom were slaves recently liberated (on condition of their removing to the Colony) in Kentucky and Tennessee, sailed from New York on the 5th of July and arrived at Monrovia on the 19th of August. This expedition was fitted out under the direction of the Auxiliary Colonization Society of New York City; and the emigrants proceeded forthwith to the settlement founded by the joint endeavours of that Society and the Young Men's Auxiliary Society of Pennsylvania, at Bassa Cove. Of those who liberated slaves that they might embark

in this vessel, Mr. G. W. M'Elroy, the zealous and successful Agent of the New York Society, who was employed for several weeks in collecting these slaves and other emigrants together, and conducting them to the port of embarkation, records the following names, with the number manumitted by each:—From Kentucky—Mr. Marks, one; George Hailen, Esq., eleven; Thomas Hopkins, Esq., six; Benjamin Major, Esq., eleven; Col. Andrew Muldrow, ten.—From Tennessee—Mr. Alexander Donelson, eleven; Mr. Peter Fisher, six. It is to be regretted that the influence of the enemies of the Society at Pittsburg was sufficiently powerful to induce fourteen of these slaves, liberated by Messrs. Donelson and Fisher to leave the company on their way to New York, although eight hundred dollars had been placed at the disposal of the Agent for the benefit of those of Mr. Donelson after their arrival in the Colony, and four hundred for those of Mr. Fisher. Of this company nearly all were members of a Temperance Society, most of them were by profession Christians, and several preachers of the Gospel. When about to embark, in reply to an address by the Secretary of the New York Society and the encouraging remarks of other Friends of the cause, the Rev. Mr. Hening, a coloured Methodist Missionary who accompanied the expedition, responded in behalf of the Colonists in a very pertinent and impressive manner. “He declared himself indebted to the Colonization Society for his personal freedom, having been manumitted for the purpose of going to Liberia by his humane master in Virginia. He had been to the Colony, and after making his observations and laboring for a time as a preacher of the Gospel both among the Colonists and the Natives, had returned to the United States to improve his education and qualify himself for more extensive usefulness. Having for two years past pursued his studies at the Wesleyan Academy in Wilbraham, Mass., and in other parts of New England, he was about to return and spend his life in the Colony, proclaiming the unsearchable riches of Christ on the shores of Africa. He expressed his heartfelt

gratitude for the kindness and sympathy he had experienced, and especially for the interest then manifested in the welfare of those with whom he was about to take his departure, and in conclusion offered a fervent address to the throne of grace, which (remarks one who was present) melted all hearts and gave evidence of his high qualifications for usefulness in the field to which he is devoted."

Mr. James B. Herron, a citizen of Nicholasville, Kentucky, much interested in the welfare of the people of colour and the success of their Colonies in Africa, took passage in the *Luna*, resolved even without compensation to visit and examine for himself the condition and prospects of those settlements.

#### CONDITION AND AGRICULTURE OF THE COLONY.

Although the number of applicants to the Society for the means of removal to Liberia continues to be great, the Managers have sought rather to improve the condition than increase the numbers of the Colony. They regret that causes unexpected and beyond their control have delayed the execution of some important measures and cherished purposes. Several vessels which were directed to touch at the Cape de Verdes and convey thence to the Colony a number of mules and other animals, have failed to effect the object. The Captain of the Brig about to sail from North Carolina is instructed to neglect no means of introducing these animals into the Colony. The ill health of the Colonial Agent and his multiplied cares and labors have not permitted him to devote the time and thought to Agricultural improvements which were demanded by the obvious connexion of such improvements with the health, industry, and general prosperity of the Colonists. The public Farm and workshops, which are intended to give employment and support to the infirm and destitute, have not been opened, nor a Superintendent of Agriculture appointed. The Managers are assured, however, from the best sources, that on the subject of Agriculture a new spirit animates the settlers; that it prevails throughout the Colony;

that this interest is regarded as one in which the well being of the people is involved; that those who have funds refuse to engage in trade, and are resolved to apply all their means to advance this interest; and finally, that should the Colonists exhibit the same zeal and energy in the cultivation of the soil during the future as during the last year, a short time only will elapse before the rich products of tropical agriculture will be exported from the Colony. We have often declared, says the intelligent Editor of the *Liberia Herald*, and we repeat the assertion, "that no reasonable man can desire greater facilities for an honorable living than are to be found in this country. The principal articles that are in foreign demand, if not indigenous to the country, are found springing up spontaneously through our mountains, hills, and valleys. Millions of coffee trees of sufficient sizes and ages may be gathered from the woods between this and Junk; we know from experiment that they will bear in three years from the time of transplantation; so that a man who will commence with spirit and set out 15 or 20 thousand plants, may calculate, with a good degree of certainty, on a large quantity of coffee in three years from the time he commences operation." It is, he very justly adds, absolutely a disgrace to us to have to inquire of foreigners when they arrive, "Have you any Coffee? or can you spare me a little Sugar? It must give them a most unfavorable opinion of our good sense and industry, when they hear that the trees and plants that produce these articles are scattered with a liberal profusion through our woods, almost within our very doors."

#### TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE COLONY.

Of the general aspect and state of things in the Colony the Managers have nothing of very special interest to communicate since the last year. Thomas H. Buchanan, Esq. commissioned by the New York and Philadelphia Societies to superintend their settlement and concerns at Bassa Cove, on his arrival in the Colony at the commencement of the year, writes;

"I find a state of things here altogether better than I had ever anticipated, even when trying to imagine the brightest side of the picture; but with my present imperfect ability to detect the errors of first impressions, shall withhold the remarks which my feelings would prompt. I visited New Georgia, Cape Town, and Caldwell, on Tuesday last. With all these towns I was much pleased, but this term is too feeble entirely to convey the delightful emotions excited by the appearance of things in the two first named villages, which are the residences of the recaptured Africans. Imagine to yourself a level plain of some two or three hundred acres, laid off into square blocks, with streets intersecting each other at right angles, as smooth and clear as the best swept sidewalk in Philadelphia, and lined with well planted hedges of cassada and plum; houses surrounded with gardens, luxuriant with fruit and vegetables; a school-house full of orderly children, neatly dressed and studiously engaged; and then say whether I was guilty of extravagance in exclaiming as I did after surveying this most lovely scene, that had the Colonization Society accomplished nothing more than had been done in the rescue from slavery and savage habits of these three hundred happy people, I should be well satisfied." Again he remarks, "Liberia far exceeds, in almost every respect all that I had ever imagined of her—nothing is wanted, I am persuaded, but a better system of Agriculture, and the permanent establishment of schools, to bring the people of Liberia at a very early day to the very highest point of the scale of intellectual refinement and political consequence."

The Rev. Beverly R. Wilson, (whose name has been already mentioned) under date of April 26th, writes; "When I was in the U. States, I said many things in favor of the Colony; but I find that I said not half enough—Here is our home, the Colony is in good health. Farming is going on well, and all is quiet at this time. Many of the farmers from Mississippi are doing well, and think they will be able to ship produce from here to the U. States in less than three years; they are

much engaged in their present crops. 'There is no doubt but we shall do well here. For my own part, I have never been so perfectly contented with my own situation in all my life. I am now at home.'

David Moore, a very intelligent emigrant from Mississippi, under date of the 25th April, writes to the Rev. Mr. Butler of Port Gibson; "I am glad to inform you that myself and family are well and generally have enjoyed as good if not better health than in the U. States; indeed our expedition has suffered very little with the fever of the climate, and the proportion of deaths has been less than if we were in America. I assure you, Rev. Sir, that I do truly thank God and my kind friends who directed my feet to this land of liberty, with its concomitant blessings. We have, although a few privations to undergo, many of nature's blessings, and I expect in a few years to be able to say, that we do then live in a land of unrivalled plenty and luxury."

James Brown, a worthy free man of colour from this City, who has resided about two years in the Colony, under date of July 27th, writes; "I say now as I have in former letters, and with more experience too, that nothing is required but proper management to make this one of the most desirable and happy places in the world. When I view the natural advantages of Liberia, I am ready to say, surely the benevolent God of nature intended it a happy asylum for the returning sons of Africa, and therefore the natural advantages of this country are more than would compensate them for their trouble in former days."

#### WAR AND SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS.

Recently, in consequence of wars among the tribes bordering on the Colony, which have raged for several months, and of which the slave trade, that ever fruitful source of crime and misery, has been the principal cause, a scarcity of provisions has existed among the natives and extended to the Colony. Some of the natives have suffered extremely, and the



poorer classes in the Colony much. The evil has been aggravated among the Colonists by the cruel depredations committed by their barbarous neighbors on the flourishing plantations with which the industrious people of Millsburg and Caldwell had adorned the banks of the St. Paul's. Prompt and effectual measures were adopted by the Colonial Agent to obtain a supply of Rice, and it is believed any general or heavy calamity to the Colony has been averted. The evil is one not affecting the character or permanent welfare of the Colony; indeed it must operate to induce the settlers to guard more vigilantly their interests and rely more exclusively upon their own energies and resources.

#### GOVERNMENT.

Early in the year, sundry questions relating to the Government, election of civil officers, relations between the Colony and the Settlement at Bassa Cove, the means of defence, and the suppression of the Slave Trade, were submitted to the Board in certain letters from the Colonial Agent, and received their deliberate and anxious consideration. The Resolutions adopted and transmitted to the Colony on those and many other topics, which were occasioning agitation and distrust in the public mind of the Colony, have contributed to preserve and strengthen political and social order and tranquillity.

#### TREATY OF PEACE WITH JOE HARRIS.

On the 6th of November of last year a treaty of peace was concluded with the atrocious chief Joe Harris, (whose war upon the unarmed settlement of Bassa Cove, and massacre of a number of its unoffending inhabitants, was described in the last Report) by which he is bound to restore any property taken by him from colonists, and now in his possession; to pay for such as has been consumed or destroyed; to grant to the New York and Pennsylvania Societies all land belonging to him south of Benson's river; to refer all questions concerning hostilities, and between himself and three other native chiefs

in his vicinity, to the Colonial authorities; and to abandon the slave trade. Although this chief agreed to the terms of this treaty with the outward show of penitence for his crimes, he is not to be trusted, and is said to have lost his influence with his own people, and to have been forced by other chiefs into measures of peace to save his life.

#### SETTLEMENT AT BASSA COVE.

A part of the unfortunate emigrants who had fled during the war from Bassa Cove, and found refuge in Monrovia, immediately returned to that place, and re-established their settlement. In a letter dated December 22d, 1835, to the Secretary of the New York Society, the Colonial Agent observes, "I have laid out the town in squares of seventeen rods, containing four lots and a highway. The streets run east and west, north and south, by the compass. Fifteen town lots are already cut down, and one large thatched house nearly completed. This place for salubrity and healthiness of location, cannot be exceeded by any spot on the western shore of Africa."

#### LAND PURCHASED.

Two valuable tracts of land have been added to the territory of the Colony during the year. The first, a small tract in the neighborhood of Edina and on the margin of the bay that forms the outlet of St. John's river, was purchased of a native chief named Bob Gray, a faithful ally of the Colony, who desires that the children of his tribe may learn the language and customs of the settlers. Between Edina and Bob Gray's town is a beautiful hill, on which, with permission of the Society, the Baptist Missionaries propose to found a Mission School, on the manual labour plan, that may afford instruction both to the children of the native town and Edina. The second tract is near the mouth of Junk river, and embraces the very eligible spot upon which stands the village or town of Marshall. This tract had been bought by the former Agent, Mr. Pinney; but the validity of the title granted

to the Society was not acknowledged by the Junk people; and it was thought best to conclude negotiations which will prevent all difference and contentions in future between the colonists and the native inhabitants.

#### MARSHALL.

Marshall stands upon an open, cleared, and rising plot of ground between the two rivers Junk and Red Junk, distant at least three miles from any Mangrove swamps, or other sources of disease, and fanned by the uncontaminated breezes of the ocean that rolls its waves upon its beach. A few houses were erected here two years ago by Mr. Pinney. A town of more than a mile square was laid off in 392 lots during the last spring, and a number of the colonists and recaptured Africans removed thither and commenced the construction of houses and the cultivation of the soil. "There cannot be (says Dr. Skinner) a healthy situation in any tropical climate, if this is not one. I should not have the least fear, had I a convenient house at Marshall, to bring out the remainder of my family, or to take under my care at that place any American for acclimation."

#### SOCIETIES OF NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA.

The united Auxiliary Societies of New York and Pennsylvania have continued during the year to prosecute their enterprise with honourable resolution and remarkable success. The unexpected and appalling event of savage warfare involving the temporary overthrow of their settlement, indescribable distress, and the destruction of many lives, did not for a moment weaken their purposes; on the contrary, they regarded it as a new argument, an irresistible motive for effort and charity. "We could not (say the Managers of the Young Men's Society of Pennsylvania, in their Report,) but gratefully acknowledge the goodness of God in preserving as in the hollow of his hand, the feeble germ, which, though in great weakness, was planted in prayer and watered with tears;

nor could we forget that even with means most inadequate, and forced to contend at the same time with opposition the most determined and unrelenting at home, and with the obstacles necessarily occurring on a distant and savage coast, one star after another has risen on that benighted shore, and the success of half a dozen little colonies has triumphantly vindicated the system of Colonization against the evil auguries of its adversaries.

“Impelled by these considerations and cheered on by the confidence that our fellow-citizens would sustain us in this work of mercy, we lost no time in ministering to the necessities of our destitute colonists, and chartered the good brig Independence of 260 tons, which, at a cost of about \$10,000, was despatched on the 23d of November, 1835, with ample supplies, to meet the exigencies of the case.”

In this vessel went as passenger Thomas H. Buchanan, Agent of the Societies of Pennsylvania and New York, whose administration of the affairs of the community at Bassa Cove has been well adapted to cherish its growth and give respectability to its character. Much was added to its strength by the expedition sent out in the summer by the New York Society. By the last advices, bearing date September 24th, 1836, it is stated that not a death has occurred there since its resettlement. During the last summer more than one hundred and fifty town lots have been cleared and several houses erected for the accommodation of future emigrants. Several public buildings are far advanced towards a completion.—“Our village, (says the Agent) though so recently covered with a dense forest, presents a cheering picture of industry, neatness and order. The well cultivated gardens, full of various vegetables, impart an idea of comfort and independence, while the broad smooth streets shaded here and there by the palm with its long feathery leaves, throws over the whole an air of picturesque beauty that is quite delightful. Generally, the emigrants are sober, peaceful, contented, and happy.—Their number exceeds two hundred.”

The cause of African Colonization occupies a higher place in the judgment and regards of the people of New York and Pennsylvania than at any former period. Success has given confidence to hope and energy to benevolence. The donations and subscriptions to the New York Society from May 20th, 1835, to May 9th, 1836, amounted to \$23,000. The Churches are increasing their contributions. Many Auxiliary Societies have sprung up recently, within these States.—The Ladies, touched with sympathy for the miseries of Africa, are coming forward to relieve them, and have already given from five to six hundred garments to assist in the civilization of her rude and untaught children.

#### CAPE PALMAS.

The Colony of Cape Palmas, founded by the State Colonization Society of Maryland, aided by the generous appropriation of the Legislature of that state, continues to prosper.—From the origin of its enterprise in 1833, this Society has sent to Africa seven expeditions, containing in all about three hundred emigrants. The village of Harper contains about twenty five private houses and several public buildings; a public farm of ten acres has been, in part, cleared; about thirty acres have been put in cultivation by the colonists; their influence on the natives is salutary; schools have been established and prosper, and the people are pronounced by the late intelligent Governor, Dr. Hall, moral, industrious, religious and happy. This gentleman has resigned his office, and J. B. Russwurm, late a citizen of Monrovia, has been appointed to the station.

#### MISSION INTO THE INTERIOR.

Allusion was made in the last Report to the appointment of certain Commissioners by the Colonial Government, to proceed into the interior as far as Bo Poro, the residence of King Boatswain, for the purpose of negotiating peace between certain hostile tribes, and opening a friendly and mutually advantageous intercourse with the people of that region. D. W. Whitehurst, one of these Commissioners, visited the United

States a few months ago, and made report to the Managers of his observations during his absence of four months from the Colony. The Commissioners resided at Bo Poro (distant from 80 to 100 miles from Monrovia) several weeks, and though they failed, owing to the very disturbed state of the country, to effect the main object, they acquired information of great value, which, in the Journal of Mr. Whitehurst, is already before the public. They passed through a fertile and beautiful country, upon which were scattered numerous fortified native towns, inhabited by a savage but active and industrious people, and abounding in the productions of tropical agriculture. Of a town within eight miles of Bo Poro, Mr. Whitehurst writes, "Every thing conspires to render this spot desirable for human happiness, if the propensity for war, which the people have, could be gotten over; but as it is, every thing is secondary to the grand object of conquest or capture. Groups of cheerful beings were passed through, either planting or grubbing, while at the towns the women were generally employed in spinning cotton. Cotton grows abundant throughout the country, and every town is furnished, more or less, with the apparatus for dying and weaving. The sugar cane too we observed frequently, while the plantain and banana were in the greatest profusion. The first notice, at times, that we would have of our proximity to a town, would be the dense and beautiful foliage of those trees giving us notice of human habitations. We approached Talma through beautiful walks of lofty and magnificent trees, very thickly interspersed with those of camwood, whose fragrant blossoms imparted delightful aroma to the atmosphere." He remarks, "the situation of Bo Poro is very obscure, being located in a valley formed by a chain of double mountains completely encircling it, and giving to their elevation a remarkable similitude to the seats of a theatre. The scenery by which the town is surrounded, is magnificently grand; as far as the eye can see, you discern mountain towering above mountain, until they are lost in the distance. The chain runs regu-

larly for some miles; then a portion more lofty than the rest, towers aloft, whilst from base to summit the eye can behold but one expanse of the greenest foliage. The land then assumes a gentle acclivity, and its increasing altitude soon raises it upon an elevation with other prominences, until the whole assumes the appearance of one continuous chain.— Here, perhaps, the eye is met by a portion under cultivation, whilst there a path is distinctly visible, leading to regions beyond. At their base is to be seen the plantain, the sure evidence of the habitation of human beings, whilst from their shade will be seen ascending smoke from their various fires. On their summit the eye catches the outline of a distant town, whilst a barricaded one is more distinctly visible.— Upon the whole, the scenery is more magnificent than any that I remember having seen; and it is to me a matter of great regret that I am unable to sketch what was most vividly impressed upon my mind.”

But amid these scenes, so adorned and enriched by the hand of nature, and where the useful arts are not wholly unknown, men are the victims of the worst superstition and vice. By the slave trade they have been rendered more implacable foes to each other than are the Leopards of their forests, and even cannibalism, a crime not against reason and the moral sense alone, but revolting even to instinct, exists among them.

#### WARS AND THE SLAVE TRADE.

Native wars (as we have already mentioned) have raged during the year among numerous tribes and along a great extent of the African Coast. They have their origin mostly in the slave trade, which, to the reproach of Christendom, no means yet employed have been adequate to suppress. The Governments of England and France, in the year 1831, conceded to each other the mutual right of search within certain geographical limits, for the suppression of the slave trade, and resolved mutually to aid each other and use their best endeavours to induce the other Powers of Europe to agree to the

terms of their convention. Endeavours have been made to secure from Brazil, the Netherlands, Sweden, Portugal and Spain, between whom and Great Britain treaties for the suppression of the slave trade had before existed, an agreement in all the articles of this convention; and "to all the other powers of Europe, (says the *Edinburg Review*) and to the U. States, France and England conjointly have made the strongest representations on the subject, and urged them by every consideration of justice, humanity and policy, to make a combined and simultaneous effort for at once annihilating what they themselves twenty years before denounced as the curse of Africa and the disgrace of Europe." Denmark and Sardinia have agreed to the convention. Austria, the Netherlands and Sweden have not declared their judgments on the subject. Prussia, Russia, and Naples seem undecided.—Brazil states that when the Portuguese trade shall cease, slaves will no longer be brought to her shore. Portugal evades the question. Spain enters into a treaty which extends the right of search even beyond the limits prescribed by the convention with France, provides for the punishment of those engaged in the traffic, for the condemnation of the vessels, and for delivery of the recaptured Africans to British authorities. This treaty leaves the suppression of the trade mostly to the activity of England; and the number of Spanish vessels captured under the new treaty, and sent into Sierra Leone for adjudication, has greatly increased. It is said that our own country has returned to the proposition of France and England a negative answer. We know not the reasons upon which this answer is founded, but if, as we suppose, they relate to the right of search (although by the convention it exists but within narrow limits for one definite object, and is guarded by express stipulations,) we trust that a nation the first to adopt measures for the suppression of that trade, the first to denounce it by statute as piracy, will not fail to do what may be necessary to prevent her own flag of freedom from covering this detestable commerce; that she will at least



exert all her influence with Christian nations, that by common consent the slave trade may be known and punished as piracy by the laws of the whole civilized world.

The Colonies planted by England and by citizens of the United States on the western coast of Africa, have done much to expel this traffic from their neighbourhood. "It is a fact, (says the Editor of the *Liberia Herald*) known to all who have made any inquiries on the subject, that there is not a regular slaving establishment to the windward of Sierra Leone, nearer than the Rio Pongas; nor is there in the Rio Pongas, as far as we can learn, an established market for the avowed purpose. Vessels casually purchase slaves there; but there is no regular market for the purpose. Nor is there to the leeward of Sierra Leone, nearer than the Gallenas, a regular slaving establishment. Here there is an extent of coast of 120 miles cleared of the scourge by the influence of one settlement alone. Gallenas is the only slaving establishment between this and Sierra Leone; and to the leeward of us, there is none nearer than Bassa." According to this, from an extent of coast of 360 miles, this trade has been nearly extirpated by the influence of colonies, and this a region which it is said was visited formerly by a greater number of vessels engaged in that trade than now touch there for purposes of legitimate commerce.

#### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

David Francis Bacon, M. D., a young gentleman of high scientific attainments and estimable character, has very recently been appointed principal Colonial Physician, and is about to embark for Liberia. He is accompanied by Dr. Wm. H. Taylor, a free man of colour educated to the medical profession at the expense of this Board, and in whose good sense and general capacity and integrity they have entire confidence.

#### EDUCATION SOCIETY.

In the course of the last summer a Society of young men was organized in the city of New York, to promote education

in Africa, and especially to found on some eligible spot in Liberia, and adequately to endow, an Institution of Learning of high character. This Society has already received pledges of support to the amount of about thirty thousand dollars, and does not doubt that the means of establishing such an Institution on broad and permanent foundations will speedily be secured. The design of this Society is not limited to the establishment of a single Seminary, but embraces the whole subject of Education for Africa, and proposes to entrust the funds it may collect, and the duties of general superintendence over its schools and colleges in Africa, to a Board of Trustees, constituted of individuals, selected for their high character and wisdom, from different portions of the Union.

#### REV. H. TEAGE.

During the summer, the Board received much valuable information from the Rev. Hilary Teage, Colonial Secretary and Editor of the Liberia Herald. Mr. Teage, though a young man, has resided for fourteen years and acquired almost his entire education in Africa. In the Herald, since his return to Africa, he has published his increased conviction, resulting from all his careful observation of the condition and prospects of his coloured brethren in America, "That the Colonization scheme presents the only safe and feasible plan that has yet been devised for the benefit of any portion of the African population of the United States."

#### FINANCES.

For information on the subject of the Finances of the Society the Managers refer to the Treasurer's Account, which accompanies this Report. The total amount of receipts during the year, is \$38,157.16. Though the amount received by the Treasurer during the year preceding the last, was \$51,662, yet, when it is observed that \$1000 was a loan from bank, nearly \$11,000 for stock issued by the Society, \$4,400 from the Navy Department for the removal to Africa of re-

captured Africans (\$200 only having been received from the last mentioned source this year;) it will be obvious that the receipts since the last annual meeting, from Auxiliary Societies, Donations, and Collections in Churches, have been larger than during the year 1835. It must be recollected, also, that the citizens of New York and Pennsylvania have contributed with increased liberality to the Auxiliary Societies in those States; so that the amount of donations to the cause exceeds very considerably that of any former year.

The disbursements to meet demands for supplies from the Colony, and to send out emigrants, (whose character and circumstances gave them strong claims for aid) have been so large as to prevent much diminution, during the year, of the debt of the Society. Hopes are entertained that the proceeds of certain legacies left to aid the cause of the Society, particularly what remains unpaid of the bequest of the late Mr. Ireland of New Orleans, will soon be received. Nor will any practicable means be neglected of establishing within the Colony such a system of Agriculture, and of introducing such improvements in the arts and the entire economy of the Colonial affairs, as may lessen greatly the Society's expenditures in Africa, and enable it soon to relieve itself from all pecuniary embarrassment.

#### CODE OF LAWS.

An improved Code of Civil and Criminal Law for the Colony, is in the hands of a legal gentleman every way qualified for the task he has been solicited to undertake, and far advanced towards a completion. The need of such a code has been long felt, and great benefits are anticipated from its publication.

#### DISCUSSION IN ENGLAND.

At former anniversaries the Managers have had occasion to advert to the interest felt in the scheme of the Society by many enlightened individuals in England, and to acknowledge many liberal donations from its generous friends in that coun-

try. No efforts have been spared by the enemies of the cause to sink it in the public sentiment of the British nation; but the Managers rejoice in the fact that during the last summer one of our countrymen, the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge of Baltimore, has in the city of Glasgow and elsewhere vindicated this cause, with great power of argument and eloquence, from the injustice and vituperation with which it has been assailed, and exhibited it to the observation of England and the world as worthy to share largely in the affections of all who regard the progress of Christianity, or the highest interests of the coloured race.

#### MISSIONS.

The various Missionary Societies of the country continue zealously to avail themselves of the advantages afforded by the civilized Colonies planted upon the African Coast for introducing education and the doctrines and institutions of the Christian Religion among the native population of that country; and their exertions have thus far been attended with success. Missionaries from four of the principal religious denominations of the U. States are already established in the several settlements, schools have been founded for native children, the language of the country has, to some extent, been reduced to a written form, and there is every reason to expect that many native tribes will soon be brought under the humanizing and sanctifying influences of the Gospel.

#### CAUSE IN VIRGINIA.

The progress of the cause in Virginia during the year, has been more encouraging than in any former period of its history in that state. Notwithstanding the entire failure of the appropriation by the Legislature, the amount of private contributions has been increased fourfold. It is confidently hoped, also, by the friends of the cause there, that the Legislature will, during the present winter, so modify the law regulating the appropriation, as will render it available to the Society.— It is the opinion of those best able to form an opinion, from

very extensive intercourse with the people of Virginia in reference to this subject, that the plan of Legislative appropriation meets with almost universal approbation. The Rev. C. W. Andrews, Agent for this State, has discharged his arduous duties with great zeal, energy, and success.

#### SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THE SOUTHWEST.

With the view of disposing of the remaining interest in the estate of the late Mr. Ireland, of New Orleans; of ascertaining the condition of several legacies recently left to the Society in the States of Mississippi and Louisiana; of conferring with the officers of Auxiliary Societies, especially of State Societies, on various questions of interest to the cause; and of securing from such associations, and from the liberality of individuals, pecuniary aid, and finally, of communicating such information to the citizens of the several places he should visit, in regard to the state and prospects of the Colony of Liberia, as might confirm the confidence and increase the number of the friends of Colonization; the Secretary of the Society, under the instructions of the Board, was engaged in a tour, from April to October, in the Southwestern States. The State Societies of Kentucky, Mississippi, and Louisiana, expressed their decided and ardent attachment to the Parent Institution, and their purpose vigorously and generously to sustain its operations. The Managers of the Kentucky Society suggested that efforts should be made, in concert, by the several State Societies, to relieve the Parent Society from every embarrassment; and in this opinion the Committee of the Mississippi Society fully concurred. Both in Natchez and New Orleans, he experienced the kindest attentions, and found that many of their wealthy citizens were the friends and benefactors of the Society.

Among the unsold portions of the estate bequeathed by the late Mr. Ireland, of New Orleans, to this Society, in joint connection with the two Asylums for Orphan Children in that city, was a valuable square of ground in Fauxburg Lafayette,

which, with the consent of the representatives of these Asylums, was sold at public auction for \$18,500. Though the Managers regard this sale as entirely fair and unexceptionable, yet, through some misunderstanding, it is to be presumed, an objection has been urged against it by the gentlemen entrusted with the interests of the Boys' Asylum, in courtesy to whom, and to prevent even a feeling of uncharitableness in the disposal of this property devoted to charity, the Board have consented that it should be resold. It is worthy of remark, that as this property is to be sold on a credit of one, two, and three years, it was generously proposed by the gentleman acting in behalf of the Asylums, that the amount which might become due the first year should be paid over to this Society.

It will be recollected, that by the will of Mr. Green a number of his slaves were liberated, and a portion of his estate left in trust of Mr. Railey, Mrs. Railey, and Mrs. Wood, (the last two, sisters of Mr. Green,) with requests both verbal and written, that it should be applied (unless their judgment should dictate otherwise) to the emancipation and colonization of slaves from Mississippi in Liberia. The slaves emancipated by Mr. Green have already been sent by his Executors to the Colony, at an expense, including the ample supplies furnished them, of about \$7,000. The Secretary was informed by Mr. Railey, that although in the opinion of some, the Executors would be clearly discharged from the trust reposed in them, by the further appropriation of \$20,000, in fulfilment of the benevolent designs of Mr. Green, they had resolved to make the amount \$25,000. It is expected that this sum will in the course of a few months be ready to be applied to the objects to which it is devoted. As the whole matter in regard to this legacy is left to the discretion of the Executors, the cheerfulness and promptitude with which they have resolved to carry into full effect the charitable purposes of the Testator cannot be too highly appreciated.

At Prospect Hill, nine miles from Port Gibson, Mississippi,

the seat of the late Capt. Ross, the Secretary had the pleasure of conferring with his very intelligent and highminded daughter, Mrs. Reed, on the subject of the great and humane purposes contemplated in the testament of her venerated father.— The provisions of the will of Capt. Ross are before the public. The will directs that should his slaves choose to emigrate to Liberia, his entire estate, after deducting some small legacies, shall be sold, and the proceeds thereof applied to their benefit in Africa. But that should they decline to go to Liberia, they, together with the estate, shall be disposed of, and the proceeds be a permanent fund entrusted to the Colonization Society, the interest of which shall be applied to establish and support a Literary Institution in the Colony. Everything possible may be expected from the benevolent views of Mrs. Reed towards carrying into speedy effect this will, prepared as she is to make any sacrifice of her personal feelings to the cause of humanity and duty. It is believed that the relatives of the deceased generally, concur in the sentiments of Mrs. Reed, and that the Executors of the estate will discharge their high responsibilities with fidelity and success. This will involves great interests. Capt. Ross was a remarkable man, distinguished for energy, integrity and benevolence. His slaves are mostly disconnected from those on other plantations, and therefore constitute one great family of about one hundred and seventy in number, who have enjoyed almost parental care and kindness. To render them happy, appears to have been the great object of their master. For several years before his death, Capt. Ross, though a skilful manager of his estate, made no attempt to add to his capital, but developed and applied his resources to increase the comforts of his people. These people are moral, sober and industrious. The income of the estate is estimated at \$20,000 per annum.

Mr. Isaac Ross, (now deceased) a worthy son of Capt. Isaac Ross, directed by his will that the slaves on one of his estates should be placed at the disposal of the Colonization Society, that they might be removed to Liberia; and a similar provision

was made in regard to all his slaves of a suitable age, by the late Drury W. Brazeale, of Claiborne county, Miss., who directed further, that they should be supplied from his estate with the articles necessary for their comfortable settlement in Africa.

A large bequest (estimated at nearly thirty thousand dollars) has been left to the Society by the will of the late Hasten M. Childers, of Carrol county, Louisiana. It is said there is a legal defect in the execution of this will; yet the estimable and generous character of Mrs. Childers will, it is presumed, forbid, if possible, that a mere informality should defeat the ends of justice and humanity.

At Louisville, Frankfort, Lexington, Shelbyville, Harrodsburg, and Versailles, public meetings were held; gentlemen of talents and influence came forward to advocate Colonization, and resolutions were passed, without a dissenting voice, declaring the plan of the Society worthy of State and National patronage, and that it was expedient for the friends of this plan in Kentucky to submit the questions therein involved, at an early day, by memorials, to the Legislature of their State and to the Congress of the U. States. Societies in several cases were reorganized; men of all political and religious creeds, and of every class and profession, were united in the opinion that the scheme of African Colonization merited support; that it was a scheme of such magnitude and utility and practicableness, as to demand for its execution the combined means and powers of the State and Federal Governments. Such is the opinion in Kentucky, of those who fill with honor her highest offices, legislative and judicial in the State, and of those who represent her with such ability and eloquence in the national councils.

Though the season of the year was unfavorable to raising funds for any object of public charity, and though much time was occupied with other objects relating to the cause, yet the subscriptions obtained amount to \$10,015.23, of which \$7,963.23 has been paid. Of this amount \$3,711 was from Louisiana; \$2,930 from Mississippi; from Kentucky \$2,685.23,



including \$1,200 from the State Society at Frankfort ; \$590 from Mobile, Alabama; and \$100 from New Albany, Indiana.

In his report to the Board, already before the public, the Secretary acknowledges with gratitude to the great Author of Benevolence and of all success in benevolent enterprises, that during his extensive tour, and his intercourse with thousands of his countrymen in the vast and busy world of the West and Southwest, he has experienced from all kindness and hospitality only; that in the prosecution of endeavours to subserve the cause of African Colonization, he has in nearly every instance received cordial, in some powerful aid, and in no case encountered opposition; that he has found pervading, generally, the minds of virtuous and reflecting men in that portion of the Union, a desire that this cause should be sustained, as of concern to patriotism no less than to humanity, by the State and Federal Governments, connected with a disposition (until it shall be so sustained) to give to it their influence, their prayers, and their donations.

Whether we consider instances of the emancipation of slaves with a view to their colonization in Africa; the munificent bequests recently made to the Society, or the amount of money contributed by the Auxiliary Associations in Mississippi and Louisiana, we may conclude that throughout the Union there is no field of better promise to the cause; none from which emigrants in larger numbers, or more suitable, are to be expected; none which will yield ampler means for their prosperous settlement in Liberia.

Early in the spring the Managers of the Mississippi Society and the Executive Committee of the Louisiana Society announced their purpose of establishing, respectively, under the general superintendence of the Parent Society, new settlements or colonies in Liberia. Neither the Mississippi nor Louisiana Societies propose any change at present in their relations to the Parent Society; and any settlements they may plant are to be subject to the laws and government of Liberia. Yet the very movements in which they propose to engage,

involve nearly all the relations which can subsist between the Parent and Auxiliary Societies : and that these relations should be clearly defined and satisfactorily adjusted, so that the views and operations of each will be perfectly intelligible to the other, and all collision and perplexity in this country and Africa be avoided, is desired not less by the Managers in Mississippi and Louisiana, than by those of the Parent Board. The evils of a disagreeing, if not conflicting, policy are already experienced; and every sober friend of African Colonization must desire to see framed a comprehensive system, which shall secure both here and in Africa that harmony of purpose and action to promote the plan, indispensable to any very extended and permanent success. A Committee of the Board of Managers was recently instructed to visit and confer with the Managers of the Branch Societies of New York and Philadelphia, in the hope that they might concur in measures tending to strengthen the bonds of union to the Parent Institution, and to give it the powers and influence indispensable to its unembarrassed operation as a National Society.— The Managers regret that questions of great interest between the Parent and these united Auxiliary Societies remain yet undecided. They trust that all the wisdom of the Society will be directed so to order and settle the relations between the Parent and all subordinate Institutions, that in any movement each shall have more power, and all more of harmony. The respected Chairman of the Mississippi Society expressed the hope that some general plan should be devised, which admitting to some extent of separate action in State Societies, might neither impair the energy nor weaken nor disturb the control of the Parent Society. There are advantages to be derived from enlisting State interests and emulation in the cause. The people of Maryland will probably give more to sustain a Maryland Colony, than for one equally related to every State in the Union. There are also disadvantages. It may be questioned whether, at present, they do not overbalance its advantages. In this scheme

of Colonization, nothing effectual can be done, with small means, without system. The present contributions to the object, if united, may effect something ; should they be divided and expended by the several State Societies, will there be a gain by their increase to compensate for what is lost by divided counsels and divided strength ? Whether we consider unity of opinion throughout the country on a subject in regard to which, of all others, differences are most fatal to success ; or energy of action, in a case where all present available power is inadequate to the work ; or harmony in a complex system, where the irregularity of a part may retard the movement if not ruin the whole ; or economy in an enterprise, to the greatness of which the pecuniary means already secured bear no comparison, and which, without vastly increased resources, can never be completed ; or order and peace, common laws and uniform manners, in the Colonies to be planted on a distant shore ; the Managers are convinced that a Society, national in its character, conducting its operations through one central organization, has advantages over any other ; and that its subversion might endanger, if not destroy, the whole scheme of African Colonization.

#### RETURN OF THE LATE COLONIAL AGENT.

Dr. Ezekiel Skinner, who consented to accept (until some other well qualified person should be appointed,) the office of Colonial Agent, and who has devoted himself with most untiring zeal, disinterestedness and activity to the welfare of the Colonists, has been compelled by ill health, to return to the U. States. The Managers would do injustice to their own sensibility, did they not express the esteem they cherish for that moral courage and enthusiasm which prompted this gentleman, after suffering bereavement in the loss of a son, who with his wife and child died in the missionary service to Africa, to leave his own family, that on a distant and heathen shore, amid toil and peril, he might alleviate human suf-

fering and assist to build up the homes of Freedom and the Churches of the Living God.

#### APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNOR OF THE COLONY.

The Managers are gratified to be able to state that Captain E. A. Hitchcock, a gentleman of commanding qualifications for the station, has received, by a unanimous vote, the appointment of Governor of Liberia, and strong hopes may be entertained that he will accept the appointment.

In conclusion, the Managers would present devout thanksgivings to the Almighty Father of mankind, by whose sustaining energies and providential care they have been permitted to continue their exertions during another year. Events since the last anniversary of this Society solemnly admonish its present members that they must soon resign their great trust to other hands, and from the scenes of Eternity alone expect to view the consummation of their enterprise. But their work shall survive them. The material they would renovate is human nature; the element they would move is the human soul, that glorious element of power embodying all the essential hopes and interests and fortunes of man.

Let this Society feel the magnitude and importance of its work. Let them regard it as a work patriotic and benevolent in all its tendencies, the execution of which is demanded alike by the love of our country, our nature, and our God; and which, contributing to the honor and safety of one Land, will shed over another—dark, savage, deep stained with *crime* and *blood*—the blessings of Freedom and Civilization and the inextinguishable light of Christianity.

Dr.

## J. Gales, Treasurer, in Account with the American Colonization Society.

Cr.

1835, December 12.		1836.	
To Balance on hand this day, - - - - -	\$3,259 28	By Cash paid on the following accounts, since the last Annual Meeting, - - - - -	\$1,000
Of cash received from the following sources, since the last Annual Meeting: - - - - -	- - - - -	For the discharge of a Loan, to the Patriotic Bank, - - - - -	2,693 40
From the several Auxiliary Societies, - - - - -	6,540 68	In payment of a portion of the old Debt, - - - - -	- - - - -
Donations, - - - - -	8,705 83	For supplies chiefly furnished in the Colony and for salaries of Officers and Physicians there, - - - - -	5,335 27
Collections in Churches, &c. - - - - -	2,857 28	For Charter of Vessels and Supplies of Trade Goods and Provisions (including the Schooner Swift from Louisiana,) - - - - -	13,562 60
Instalments on Gerrit Smith's Plan of Subscription, - - - - -	1,900 - -	For Salaries and expenses of Travelling Agents, - - - - -	3,397 48
Life Subscribers, - - - - -	571 48	For Salaries of Officers at home, - - - - -	3,886 8
Legacies, - - - - -	4,515 - -	For educating, maintaining and clothing a coloured Student in Medicine, - - - - -	524 75
Sale of the Society's Stock, - - - - -	1,642 61	For do. of a coloured youth left to the care of this Society by the late Mr. Ireland of N. Orleans, now sent to the Colony, - - - - -	80 42
Emigrants and their Friends on account of their passage, &c. to Liberia, - - - - -	2,016 - -	For Office Rent, Fuel, Postage, Stationery and other Contingencies, - - - - -	635 87
Navy Department for the passage, &c. of two recaptured African Girls, - - - - -	200 - -	For Printing, - - - - -	555 50
From the Mississippi Auxiliary Society, and from the Ex'r. of the late James Green's Estate, advanced in fitting out the Schooner Swift from New Orleans, in April last, with 45 Emigrants and the necessary supplies, - - - - -	5,000 - -	For Redemption, Instalments and Interest on the Society's Stock, - - - - -	3,227 30
A Loan from the Female Auxiliary Society at Fredericksburg, to be hereafter appropriated to a School Establishment in the Colony, - - - - -	160 - -	For Interest, Discount and loss on depreciated Notes, - - - - -	167 27
Interest incurred on a donation made in the year 1832 by H. Shelton, Esq. towards the establishment of a College in Liberia, - - - - -	- - - - -	For payment to J. C. Dunn, of the amount received for the African Repository, - - - - -	292 7
From Subscribers to the African Repository, - - - - -	496 93	Balance (including an uncurrent Note and a Note and Drafts not at maturity,) - - - - -	35,408 1
	292 7		2,749 15
	<u>\$38,157 16</u>		<u>\$38,157 16</u>

The undersigned, appointed to audit the Treasurer's Accounts, from December 12, 1835, to December 10, 1836, have performed the duty assigned them, and having compared the entries with the vouchers, find the record correctly kept and the balance correct. PHINEAS BRADLEY,  
December 12, 1836. M. ST. CLAIR CLARKE.



## PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

## AT THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING.

The Twentieth Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society, was held at 7 o'clock, P. M., on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 1836, in the Hall of the House of Representatives of the United States.

HENRY CLAY, M. C., a Vice-President of the Society, took the chair.

The meeting was opened by prayer from the Rev. ALEXANDER PROUDFIT, D. D., of New York.

The Annual Report of the Managers was read by the Rev. R. R. GURLEY, Secretary of the Society; (See *ante* p. 3) and, on motion of the Rev. WM. HAWLEY, of Washington City, was accepted, and ordered to be printed under the direction of the Managers.

Dr. PROUDFIT offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Society for colonizing, with their own consent, on the coast of Africa, the free people of colour of the United States, whether it be regarded as a scheme of philanthropy or religion, is entitled to an honourable rank among the benevolent institutions of our country and our age; and the success which has recently attended the exertions of its friends may encourage them to persevere.

The remarks of the Reverend gentleman in support of his resolution were as follows :

Mr. PRESIDENT:—It is a principle in the constitution of man to derive pleasure from the contemplation of any object approaching the perfection of its nature. With what delight do we look at the blade, as it rises above the earth, followed “by the ear,” and that in due season “by the full corn above the ear;” or the bud, as it appears in the orchard, succeeded by the opening blossom, and that afterwards by the colouring, ripening fruit. To all, therefore, who feel interested in the melioration of human misery, and the promotion of human happiness, it must be gratifying in the extreme to notice the *onward* march of all our benevolent societies; societies which are intended to advance the temporal and immortal welfare of man; and while the liberal support afforded to these institutions reflects imperishable honour on the philanthropy of our country, the results, we confidently hope, will be interesting beyond what the arithmetic of mortals can compute. The time has been with-in your recollection, Mr. President, and my own, when there was not a society on the globe for the gratuitous distribution of the scriptures, and now there are of lesser and larger grade more than two thousand, and through their instrumentality copies of the sacred oracles to the amount of nearly fifteen

millions have been published, and circulated in almost every language spoken by man. The greater part of this audience can also recollect the time when there was no tract society upon the earth, and now you can scarcely visit a city, or village, or country settlement, without an association of some form to circulate these "little messengers of mercy," and through their exertions nearly three hundred millions of tracts, containing the truths of eternal life, have been printed and thrown into circulation; shall I say, sir, in the words of an eloquent writer, "nearly three hundred millions of leaves, shaken from the tree of life, are now borne by the four winds of heaven for the healing of the nations?" A spectator would imagine that these various institutions must necessarily interfere with each other, and that in proportion to the patronage afforded to each, the patronage given to the others would be diminished.—But the fact is directly the reverse. These various societies are like so many wheels in one vast, complicated machine; each moving in its own place tends to facilitate and expedite the motion of the other; or they may be compared to different planets in the solar system: each revolving in its own orbit, diffuses light, and heat, and glory upon another, and contributes to the perfection of the whole system.

But, sir, in this bright constellation which has already shed, and is still shedding their radiance upon our world, can you select one the *onward* march of which is more gratifying than that of the Society which is designed to elevate the character of the long insulted and oppressed offspring of Africa? Among our other institutions, one may be the favorite of the patriot, another of the philanthropist, and another of the christian; but that institution, which has for its object the emancipation of the enslaved, the elevation of the depressed, the intellectual culture of the illiterate and ignorant, the civilization of the savage, and the extension of the means of salvation to hundreds of millions who are perishing without vision or hope, makes its appeal irresistibly to all that is generous in the bosom of the patriot, and philanthropist, and christian, and such, either immediately or remotely, is the object of the Colonization Society:—And, sir, the march of this institution is not merely *onward*, but *rapid* and accelerating. More emigrants have been colonized on the coast of Africa within the last eighteen months than in many preceding years, and the amount of monies collected and subscribed has been probably fourfold greater than in any similar period since the commencement of the enterprise. Indeed, this cause in all its relations appears to enjoy the smiles of a benignant Providence. The colonists in all the settlements along the coast are represented as industrious, and prosperous, and contented. But facts are always the most impressive and unanswerable arguments. In addition therefore to the accounts contained in your able Report, which has been read, permit me to give the following communication from Mr. Buchanan, our Agent, dated Bassa Cove, June 28, 1836. "Our affairs here are generally in a flourishing condition; the people are industrious, healthy, and prosperous; the village has a beautiful and thrifty appearance, exceeding any thing of the kind, considering its infancy, that I ever saw; the streets are clean, and finely shaded with palm trees; their lots are well cleared, and teeming with luxurious vegetation; the inhabitants have,



for weeks, been living on the fruits of their industry, drawn from a soil which five months since was covered with a thick wilderness. So far our little Jerusalem has been signally blessed by a merciful Providence, and not a death has occurred since December iast. We have lately succeeded in the establishment of a weekly Mail between this village, and Monrovia, which I think will tend much to the improvement of the colonies." It is also stated by Doctor Skinner, another Agent, in his letter of January 1836, "I have laid out the lands at Bassa Cove in square lots running East and West, North and South by the compass. On several of the lots they have already commenced improvements, and have nearly completed a large, convenient house; this place for the salubrity of air and fertility of soil, is not exceeded by any spot on the Western shores of Africa. I do hope that the Society will not abandon its object, which, if persevered in, will soon be followed by the most glorious results, and I expect that the time will shortly come when the town which I have been laying out will be the capital of a great empire."

Such is the testimony of different Agents, relative to the flourishing condition of our colonies; and permit me, Mr. President, yet to trespass on your patience by adding the statement of Mr. Samuel Benedict, a coloured man, who emigrated to Africa in July 1835, from Georgia, under the auspices of the New York Colonization Society:—And it may not be improper to remark that this Benedict is a coloured man of superior order: without the advantages of an early education, he has risen by the force of native intellect to very considerable distinction as a scholar; by his untiring diligence he had accumulated a competent fortune, and by his integrity of conduct secured the confidence of all who knew him. It may afford you some knowledge of his taste and attainments, when I mention that upon his embarkation for Africa he had in his possession a splendid copy of Henry's Commentary on the Old and New Testaments, Clark's Commentary on the Bible, Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History, Rollin's Ancient History, Blackstone's Commentaries on Law, with a collection of miscellaneous works on divinity, and medicine, and law. This Benedict some time after his settlement in the Colony, wrote to the Corresponding Secretary the following account of his situation, "I am so far pleased with Africa; indeed, instead of repenting that I am here, although I was well treated in Georgia, I would not return to live in the United States for five thousand dollars; there is scarcely a thinking person here but would feel insulted if you talked to him about returning. The people are now turning their attention to the cultivation of the soil, and are beginning to live within their own means. I believe that a more moral community is no where to be found than in Liberia, and I never saw more religious enjoyment in my life. I hope that God will send us good inhabitants; men of intelligence, and piety, and pecuniary means; this is all that we want to render us a happy republic."

Such, Mr. President, is the testimony of Emigrants and Agents with respect to the situation of our settlements in Africa; and although colonization is interwoven with the progress of society since "men began to multiply upon the earth," I verily believe the success attending this enterprise stands without a parallel in the annals of our world. In tracing the history of nations, during

the lapse of 5,000 years, can you mention another instance in which a similar enterprise has incurred less expense, or experienced less disaster, or been connected with more to encourage? The Jews colonized under the immediate direction, of Heaven; they were guided "through the day by the pillar of cloud, and all the night by the pillar of fire," a pledge of the presence of the Redeeming Angel; the Phœnicians early colonized from Asia to Africa under the auspices of Dido, their Princess; the tribes of the Greeks and the Romans occasionally colonized to other countries; our pilgrim fathers colonized from the old to this new world, but I will venture to assert, without the fear of contradiction, that in all the history of the migrations of the human family no other has been attended in all respects with circumstances equally auspicious and animating to its friends. The Israelites, in their march from Egypt to Caanan, sullered alternately from hunger, from thirst, from malignant disease, from "fiery serpents," and from invading foes; from these and other causes they suffered to such degree that of the hundreds of thousands who departed from Egypt, two only survived to reach the land of promise; and what is the history of our venerable forefathers, who first penetrated the forests of this new world? I ask, sir, what is their history but the narrative of persecution and suffering and massacre? One hundred and one of the pilgrims of immortal memory reached the rock of Plymouth in December 1620, and before the following April forty-six of their number had fallen victims to hunger or other causes, and I need not inform this enlightened assembly that out of 9000 who were sent successively to James Town, of Virginia, at the immense expense of 150,000 pounds sterling, and fostered by the patronage of the British Crown, scarcely 500 were living at the expiration of 7 years. Now, sir, in some of the instances to which I have referred the mortality amounted nearly to one-half, in another to the nine-tenths, and in the other almost to the entire extinction of the Colony; but among all who have emigrated to Liberia under our Colonization Societies, the mortality has not probably exceeded one-tenth.

Now, Mr. President, the practicability and excellence of our enterprise is no longer a matter of experiment. "We have passed the Rubicon," the problem has received a satisfactory solution. It has been fully tested, and if we may venture to infer the approbation of God from the aspect of his providence, we are justified in concluding that our efforts for meliorating the miseries of this injured portion of his offspring, are an "offering acceptable;" that it has secured the high sanction of Heaven, and the command from the throne to our Society is, ONWARD, ONWARD.

Only, sir, glance for a moment across the Atlantic, and see the once abject, degraded man of colour, after he has touched the soil of his fathers and inhaled the genial atmosphere of liberty, how he rises in self-respect: "Redeemed, regenerated, and disenthralled," he appears erect, moving about in all the majesty of a freeman, and exulting in many instances in the anticipation of those noble immunities which free grace has furnished in the regions of light.

Where is the patriot, or the pious man who can refuse to aid us in our exertions for thus neutralising the cup of human woe? Who that believes the

record of eternal truth, that "God has made of one blood all nations of men, who dwell on all the face of the earth" will not co-operate with us in every rational and constitutional measure for restoring to the injured African the actual possession of his *birthright*? Who that expects to walk the streets of the heavenly city would not desire to be occasionally met by some once benighted African, now irradiated with the light of immortality, dressed in robes of white, with a *palm in his hand* and a *crown on his head*, saying, "to your exertions in the colonizing cause I am indebted under God for all those honours which I now enjoy and hope to enjoy through eternal ages."

Sir, permit me to cherish such a prospect rather than to possess the wealth of a Cræsus, or wield the sceptre of a Cæsar, or be borne in the triumphal car of an Alexander, or occupy the throne of the most magnificent Monarch upon the earth.

DAVID M. REESE, M. D., of New York, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the present aspect of the colonial settlements at Liberia, furnishes an ample and practical refutation of the prophecies and calumnies of our enemies, and that the industry, temperance, health, and morals of the colonists, while they are eminently favorable to the character of our emigrants, call for devout thanksgiving to God, and should serve to encourage the Society to greater zeal and perseverance in their noble enterprise.

The resolution was sustained by the following address from its mover:

At so late an hour, and in view of the gentlemen whose addresses are anticipated, I know too well what is becoming, to detain the meeting except by a few very brief remarks. These I am induced to make, by the request of your Committee, who have placed in my hands this resolution.

In the history of the American Colonization Society, there is nothing more remarkable, than the numerous conflicts and victories, which have successively followed each other, at almost every step of its benevolent progress. Apart from the novelty and difficulty of the enterprise; the unavoidable disasters which must ever attend upon the effort to plant colonies upon such a barbarous coast as that of Africa; and the embarrassments of the infant Society in undertaking so herculean a task with so limited means, this Institution has encountered the most fierce and formidable obstacles which the craft or malice of its enemies could invent. There have not been wanting a whole tribe of the family of croakers, who have decried the scheme as Utopian, and prophesied certain defeat and ruin to the whole enterprise. Others have been found to deny its political constitutionality, impugn the motives and principles of its founders, and falsely impute a design to trespass upon civil rights. While the recent organised combination, whose hostility to the cause has been proclaimed by the vain and mischievous war-cry of immediate abolition, have not ceased to regard the Colonization scheme as an insurmountable barrier in their way, and hence have conspired for its overthrow.

The resolution alludes to the prophecies and calumnies of this latter class of enemies, which have been as unprovoked as they have been cruel and unjust. But a short time since, a temporary adversity seemed to threaten the Society at home, and a severe epidemic was raging in the Colony, to which a number of the emigrants became victims. This latter event was seized upon with apparent gratification, and in trumpeting it through the land, it was gravely stated by a reverend Divine, and distinguished advocate of the party, that we were sending the hapless descendants of Africa into a second Golgotha, and that such was the sickness of the Liberian climate. the Asiatic cholera, in all the fury of its desolation, was *salubrity* itself compared with Monrovia. Sir, this calumny (for such it was and is, though often repeated, and among the means employed to deter our coloured brethren from consenting to be colonized,) has met its ample and practical refutation by the facts of the case, as they are now spread before the public, and by which it is now established beyond the possibility of denial or doubt, that a degree of exemption from fatal disease, is enjoyed by our colonists, such as this world never witnessed in a newly settled country in any climate. Indeed, such has been the Divine blessing upon a number of the settlements, that the emigrants, after a sufficient trial, are themselves convinced that a better state of health can be enjoyed there, than in those parts of our own country from which they have removed.

In like manner, sir, the Society has been gainsayed, and its colonists slandered, because of some instances of intemperance which occurred in the settlements, and an impression has been created that we were not only ruining our own emigrants by means of ardent spirits, but that by traffic with the natives in this article, we were inflicting upon the neighbouring tribes the unutterable withering curse of intoxication and its kindred vices. But this allegation, like the former, has been overthrown, and by the prudent measures of the Society, and the vigilant co-operation of the inhabitants of our Colony, the Temperance reformation has there gained an unexampled triumph, and there is better ground to expect the utter annihilation of the traffic and use of intoxicating drinks from Liberia, than there is to calculate on a similar result in any part of our own country, nearly all the inhabitants being already pledged to total abstinence.

But without alluding to the numerous groundless accusations urged against us by these enemies of the cause, and their confident predictions of the extinction of the Society, and the failure of our enterprise in Africa, it may be in place to refer to the charges of discontent, indolence, and vice, brought in so many forms against the colonists, and which have been refuted by a mass of testimony which is irresistible. It is now proved that the great body of our emigrants in Liberia, are turning their attention to agricultural pursuits, and the first fruits of their industry have been exhibited here in the production of corn, sugar, coffee, cotton, and other useful and profitable commodities, which have already been yielded by that fruitful soil. And it is equally well established that the contentment and happiness of our colonists, is proverbial, while the good morals which reign in Liberia, present a severe rebuke to the infe-

rior morality of most of the districts of our own country even among our white population, a fact which has been attested by numerous and respectable witnesses in Europe and America, who have visited the settlements. But I forbear to dwell upon these topics, and will only express the hope that this Society may still go on and prosper; offering no other reply, no farther vindication, than what its works afford. Facts, stubborn facts, are accumulating every year, which not only serve to stop the mouths of gainsayers of every class, but to multiply the friends of the enterprise in every portion of this land. A brighter day is dawning upon us; the present aspect of the Colony is a bright and cheering one, while recent exhibitions of public liberality inspire renewed hopes of extended usefulness to our own country as well as to Africa. Yes, sir, God has not given up Africa! but He designs by our instrumentality to enkindle upon her western coast the fires of civilization and the lights of Christianity, which shall not only spread among her degraded sons the blessings of our free institutions, of science and religion, but open an asylum for her long-lost children, whose attractions will soon be so powerful as to draw hundreds of thousands of them to that soil of happiness and freedom.

I have no fear that the present repugnance to Africa will long be felt by our coloured population. Sir, their hostility against being removed to Africa is unnatural and artificial. It has been created by calumny and falsehood, else it had never been felt.

“Lives there the man with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said,  
This is my own, my native land?”

And suppose we and our families should be transplanted by some strange providence into central Africa, and suppose one generation should succeed another, while still our race should be kept distinct among the surrounding black population; think you, sir, that our descendants to the latest generation would ever forget that they were strangers in a strange land—that they were Americans, though born in Africa? Can any man believe that they would resist the proposition to remove them from bondage there to liberty here, and complain of “*expatriation*” forsooth? The idea is preposterous and absurd; for every heart will bear me witness that they would still regard this as their “*native land*,” because it was the land of their fathers, and the race with which the God of nature has identified them. Ah, sir, the hearts of our coloured population are cast in the same mould, and if they were unsophisticated, they would hail with acclamation the scheme of this Society, and escape from the snare of blindness and prejudice in which their pseudo friends have entangled them. This will ultimately be the result of our toils and labours, however long the consummation may be postponed by untoward events in Providence, or the malicious devices of our enemies.

I love this Society, because I love the black man with my whole heart. All the sympathies of my nature rally around the coloured race, whether in our own or in other lands, and for their deep and cruel wrongs, oppressed and downtrodden in the dust as they are here and elsewhere, whether enslaved or nominally free, I feel a gush of emotion which I can neither restrain nor yet

describe. Some of the first specimens of the sensibilities of our nature, in all their tenderness and pathos, I have witnessed in my intercourse, professional and otherwise, with this afflicted people. I have seen them pursued by dark events, until misfortune seemed to claim them for its own, and calamity mark them out as its chosen victims. And when maternal love has wrung from the heart of female Africans, withering under affliction and bereavement, the deepest lamentations of which our common nature is susceptible, I have fancied that I could hear them express their anguish in the touching strains of the poet—

“ Oh! ever thus from childhood’s hour  
I’ve seen my fondest hopes decay;  
I never lov’d a tree or flow’r,  
But ’twas the first to fade away;  
I never nurs’d a little one,  
To glad me with its soft black eye,  
But when it came to know me well,  
And love me, it was sure to die.”

Surely, sir, we ought to sympathise with the sufferings of our coloured brethren at home and abroad, and I rejoice in this Society, mainly because it is devoted to the benevolent work of “ binding up the broken hearted, and raising up the bowed down, and letting the oppressed go free.”

In conclusion, I would only add, that I regard this great enterprise as the noblest of all the objects which benevolence and religion have prompted in this Christian land;—the noblest of them all, because it comprises them all. Do we desire to promote peace on earth and good will to man? Ours is a Peace Society labouring in a field of wars and bloodshed beyond what is witnessed in any country under heaven. Are we the enemies of the slave trade and slavery itself? Where beneath the sun, is there such slavery of the body and the mind as that which binds the millions of Africa to petty despots, whose deeds of cruelty and blood are “ enough to make the cheek of darkness pale”? But our Society aims to break the yoke and let the oppressed go free, and already have we curtailed the horrid slave trade, with a success beyond all the efforts of the civilized world. Are we friends of the Temperance, the Bible, the Tract, the Sunday-school, the Missionary Society? All these are concentrated here, and all these are even now in progress on the darkest spot of earth, through our instrumentality and by the Divine blessing on our infant Colony. And to bless and save that continent of heathenism, we are now humbly endeavouring to communicate both science and religion, education and Christianity. And already does our Colony provide the missionary of the cross not only with a field of labour, but with an open door, a great and effectual one for penetrating a land of barbarians, who for centuries have been utterly inaccessible.

Sir, I am done. Let us still labour and pray, for the cause is good, and the best of all is, that God is with us, and neither Balaam’s cursing nor divination will prevail against our Israel.

**Dr. REESE’s resolution was unanimously adopted.**

On motion of GEORGE GRENNELL, Jr., M. C., of Massachusetts, the following resolution, sustained by an address from the mover, was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Society are due to the Ministers of the Gospel, of every denomination throughout the Union, who have given their benevolent aid to its funds by taking up collections in their several churches on or about the fourth of July; and that it be respectfully recommended to them to continue the practice annually.

Mr. ZACCHEUS COLLINS LEE, of Baltimore, Maryland, offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the friends of this Society are urged, by powerful considerations of patriotism and humanity, to exert their influence to form a public sentiment which shall sanction the application of the treasure of the nation to effect, on a large scale, the plan of this Society; and that it be recommended to the friends of the cause throughout the Union to solicit for this plan the patronage of their respective State Legislatures.

Mr. LEE, in support of his resolution, said that

The period had arrived, in his opinion, when it appeared necessary and just that this Society should present and enforce its claim for the patronage and aid of the Federal and State Legislatures. He therefore deemed it proper to offer at this time and in this place, the resolution just read, and believed the appeal it contemplated would be heard and responded to wherever a sense of justice and philanthropy prevailed. How far it was politic, now, to address ourselves to the Congress of the U. States, was a matter about which there was a difference of opinion among the friends of Colonization. For himself, he saw no sound objections to the exercise by Congress of the powers under the Constitution, of appropriating something out of an overflowing treasury, to the great and beneficent objects of the Society.

Twenty years ago, Mr. President, a few wise and good men assembled in a private apartment of this city, and laid in silence and comparative obscurity the foundations of this Society. They had seen and felt for years, with alarm and anxiety, the rapid spread of an *anomalous* free black population, carrying with it a train of evils which our experience at this time most sincerely deplores; they foresaw the disastrous consequences such an evil, unremedied or unchecked, would produce, not only to the master but the slave. Exiles from social and political privileges they beheld this degraded population—*negatively* free it is true, yet burdened and bowed down by a heavier load of moral and physical wrongs than their enslaved brethren: and differing from them only in this, that they are “*slaves without a master*,” and bound to those around them by no ties of sympathy or consanguinity. To meliorate, therefore, the condition of this prostrate and outcast race—and to give to them the *fruits of liberty*, dispensed and received under their “*own vines and fig trees*”; to afford, in the next place, security to the slaveowners and resignation to the slaves, by removing from them the example and influence of this free black population, acting directly by their corrupting influence on the feelings and passions of

the slaves, and indirectly through the thousand channels fanaticism and a false philanthropy were opening; and finally, to vindicate and illustrate the great fundamental principles of liberty upon which our institutions repose, and to the maintenance of which we stood gloriously pledged to the world, by giving *true* freedom to those who have a right to demand it, and leading ultimately by just and cautious steps (with the full consent of all parties and interests in the country) to the gradual emancipation of those whose servitude is inconsistent with the genius and spirit of our Constitution and our social and national prosperity; were the noble objects of the founders of this Society: and by dedicating it to such purposes, they must command and receive the gratitude of one race and the applause of the other.

Among its founders, your name, sir, is conspicuously enrolled; and that voice which first hailed the birth of South American freedom, and from these walls sent forth her eloquent and soul-stirring appeal, has since been often raised in behalf of this Society. Among your associates in this great enterprise are some immortal names: and while man has the spirit to be free, or the virtue to be just, MADISON, MARSHALL, and MONROE, will be the more venerated on this account; for they lived and died the zealous friends of this great charity.

One of these sages, whose spirit has but recently joined those of his ascended compatriots, gave an enduring evidence of his attachment to the Society and its principles, by a liberal bequest, rendered the more touching and impressive from the fact, that the fund to meet it is to be raised out of the publication of the History of the Convention which framed our Constitution, from *his own pen*.

Thus from the publication and diffusion of this patriotic work, embodying as it will the spirit and principles of American Liberty, has this beloved Father of the Constitution reflected his own opinions of our Society, and attested the sincerity and fervour of his support to it while he lived, by devoting this great tribute of his pen to its aid after his death.

Is there not abundant reason to believe, that in some of the larger Commonwealths of the South the cause of Colonization is gaining ground? The Report just read informs us that several wealthy Planters of that section have already manumitted their slaves for the purpose of conveying them, through the means of this Society, to Liberia; while others are fast yielding their prejudices and becoming the friends and patrons of the Colonization scheme.— And why should the enlightened of any part of the country hesitate? Colonization, as our Society professes it, is not, sir, that bugbear conjured up, as fanatics charge, to disturb the tenure between master and slave. It is a *mild*, *prudent*, and *safe* principle, which meditates great ultimate good to the masters and the slaves, with the full consent of the former, and without infringing upon or questioning vested rights. Unlike the exciting, imprudent, and unsafe expedients of *abolitionism*, it inflicts no injury on the slave, in the efforts to emancipate him; nor fastens closer on him the fetters it could not break; leaving the enthralled to the slow but just operation of a sound public sentiment on the subject, which must ere long lead to their redemption. Our So-



ciety is now labouring to prepare for them a republic and home in the land of their fathers, where neither

“The oppressor’s wrongs,  
The proud man’s contumely,”

can follow or assail them; and thus hold out to those already free or emancipated, strong inducements to leave this and fly on the wings of this Society to a better and freer country for them; and also appeals by the strongest motives of *interest* and mercy to the slaveholder to liberate his slaves and aid in their removal.

The Report also informs us, that there are at this time upwards of 3000 emigrants at the Colony, partaking all the blessings of civilization and freedom: And there, where the accursed slave trade 20 years ago raised its bloody banner and desolated the coasts of Africa, you behold now, civilized, *educated*, *erect* man, walking abroad in his own majesty, bearing on his brow the stamp of freedom, and in his hands the charter of human rights.

Africa is rising up from the sleep of barbarism; temples of religion and songs of praise are seen and heard in her valleys and on her mountains,

Star eyed Science seeks her votaries there.”

Already schools and colleges are thronged by her sons and daughters; commerce and trade are extending their enterprises; and indeed to one unaccustomed to such a spectacle, it would seem that some enchanter’s wand had been waved over that benighted land: for lo! “it blooms and blossoms like the rose”; her rocks have been struck, and the waters of life and knowledge are gushing forth; her dead form has been reanimated, and Africa will be redeemed.

Who then, sir, can behold all this, and not bless the motives and acts of this Society?—and may we not certainly contemplate the period when the *whole* of this ill-fated continent shall participate in those blessings of civilization and knowledge (now enjoyed by the Colony) which more favored regions realize? It was the cradle of creation; light first broke upon the world, and the morning first blesses with its beams her borders—but makes her misery and darkness more mournfully visible. Let us, the new *Western Hemisphere*, send back the ever-burning lights of Christianity and peace to her.

Nos.....primus equis oriens afflavit anhelis

Illic sera rubens accendit lumina vesper.

The venerable gentleman who first addressed you (Dr. Proudfit of N. York) justly remarked that the benevolence of this Society could not at this day be truly estimated. He is right, sir; for until that great continent shall be brought into the family of nations, and those beautiful vallies mentioned in the Report—where Nature has been prodigal in her gifts to man, but he, alas! is little less than the cannibal torturing and devouring human flesh; till the light of this Colony, like Bethlehem’s star, shall penetrate and give salvation to this people; then and not till then, can the value and benevolence of this great charity be fully felt.

How appropriate, at this time, would be the dedication of a part of the surplus revenue arising from the sale of the public lands, to the objects of this Society; thus making the soil once cultivated by the slave, contribute to his final disenthralment and removal to a free and happy country. Let us therefore

hope that the enlightened patriotism of our rulers and legislators will ere long accomplish this desirable purpose.

On this interesting subject coming events, which are casting their shadows so darkly before them, must ere long *force* the conviction on the minds of all, of the incalculable importance of this Society, and the great good it is destined to perform, both to the white and black population of the country, if it is now promptly *aided* by individual and state resources. The resolution offered for your adoption will, therefore, we may hope, receive the candid and liberal consideration from the States, which their own true interests and its just appeal call for.

The white and black races cannot exist and prosper together; and history and experience alike instruct us, that the latter must yield to the triumphant march of the former. And in this country, sir, should it not be so? Humanity, civil and religious liberty, alike demand it. Already have its triumphs been rapid and unsparing; stripping the unfortunate and less numerous race of the best rights of man. *This is not the black man's country: we propose taking him to his native soil, where he may flourish and be respected.*

A once powerful and renowned people, the aborigines of this land, differing from the Anglo-Saxon in colour and habits, reduced by the latter to a small remnant, are at this moment waging a last fierce and fearful battle for their hunting grounds, and must soon fall by the slow but certain arms of their white civilized foe.

How, then, sir, can the result be otherwise?—ought it to be otherwise? Here our fathers, *our* great free Anglo-Saxon fathers founded this spreading empire, and enkindled those lights of civilization, which are inextinguishable. We must go on conquering and to conquer.

“Westward the star of empire makes its way.”

This is the white man's home. Let us labor, therefore, to remove from it now, by mild and benevolent means, the black man, before the conqueror's sword shall, as it must, destroy and overwhelm him.

Mr. LEE's resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. WILLIAM HILL, D. D., of Virginia, offered the following resolution, and addressed the Society in its support:

*Resolved*, That this Society has heard with pleasure of the establishment in New York of the Young Men's Society for promoting education in Africa; and that it will afford all suitable facilities and aid to the objects of that association.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On motion of the Rev. CHARLES W. ANDREWS, of Virginia, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That the moral darkness which has for ages enveloped Africa, and the extreme miseries in which her population is involved, give her the strongest claims upon our compassion and charity; and that the establishment of colonies of free people of colour upon her coast affords the most encouraging means for introducing among her inhabitants freedom, civilization, and Christianity.

On motion of Mr. GEORGE W. P. CUSTIS, of the District of Columbia, the following resolution, sustained by an address from the mover, was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That, in the decease of two of its revered Vice-Presidents, the Right Reverend Bishop WHITE and ROBERT RALSTON, of Philadelphia, this institution is bereaved of great public and private worth, and of powerful aid in its work of benevolence and philanthropy, and that it will cherish the memory of those benefactors of humanity.

The Rev. JAMES LAURIE, D. D., after a few introductory remarks, offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That this Society deeply deplore the death of JAMES MADISON, late President of the United States, and President of this Society; and that it will ever cherish the recollection of his exalted wisdom, patriotism, and philanthropy; and that, in honor of this illustrious man, the Managers be instructed to give to one of the next settlements which may be founded by them on the African coast, the name of MADISON.

On motion of Mr. GURLEY, the Society adjourned to meet at the First Presbyterian Church, at 7 o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14.

The Society met at 7 o'clock, P. M., at the First Presbyterian Church, pursuant to adjournment.

CHARLES F. MERCER, M. C., a Vice-President of the Society, took the chair.

The meeting was opened by prayer from the Rev. Dr. LAURIE.

SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD, M. C., of New Jersey, offered and addressed the Society in support of the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That the liberal bequests recently made to this Society give evidence of the increasing interest in the cause of African Colonization, and that we especially acknowledge, in the peculiar character of the donation of Mr. MADISON, a recognition of the wise philanthropy and pure principles of human liberty on which this Society is founded.

JOHN J. CRITTENDEN, M. C., of Kentucky, offered the following resolution, and addressed the Society in its behalf :

*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this meeting, this Society is especially worthy of support, in that it presents a great scheme of benevolence towards our coloured population, in which the North, the South, the East, and the West can consistently and harmoniously unite, to the distinguished honor of one country, and the deliverance from superstition, crime, and misery of another.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

MATTHEW ST. CLAIR CLARKE, of Washington city, offered the following resolution, in support of which he addressed the Society :

*Resolved*, That a committee of twelve members be appointed to take into consideration the entire subject of the relations between the Parent Society and its Auxiliaries throughout the Union, and report thereon at the next meeting.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. SOUTHARD, it was resolved that the President of the meeting be added to the committee.

And on motion of Mr. CLARKE, it was resolved that the President of the Society be chairman of the committee, and that he appoint its other members.

The following gentlemen were announced as the committee :

Mr. MERCER, Chairman, Mr. CLARKE, Mr. JONES, Mr. SOUTHARD, Mr. WHITTLESEY, Mr. SEATON, Dr. REESE, Dr. PROUDFIT, Mr. DOUGLASS, Mr. GURLEY, Mr. FENDALL, Mr. PHELPS, Mr. PEABODY.

Mr. LEE of Baltimore offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to prepare a memorial to the several State Legislatures, soliciting their countenance and pecuniary aid to the great and philanthropic object of this institution.

Mr. SOUTHARD suggested the following as preferable :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several State and Auxiliary Societies to present memorials to their respective State Legislatures, soliciting their countenance and pecuniary aid to the great and philanthropic object of this institution.

Mr. GURLEY made some remarks in favor of an application to Congress for aid, but declined proposing any resolution to that effect.

The suggestion of Mr. SOUTHARD was adopted by Mr. LEE, and the resolution, as accordingly modified, was adopted.

On motion of Dr. LAURIE, the Society adjourned, to meet at 7 o'clock to-morrow evening, at the lecture room attached to the First Presbyterian Church.

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15.

The Society met according to adjournment at the lecture room attached to the first Presbyterian Church, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

Mr. MERCER, a Vice-President, took the chair.

The President of the meeting, as chairman of the committee

on Auxiliary Relations appointed last night, stated that the committee had made some progress in the business entrusted to them, but were not prepared to make a report this evening.

On motion, the Society *resolved*, when it adjourned, to adjourn to meet to-morrow evening, in order to receive the report of the committee.

On motion of Dr. PROUDFIT,

*Resolved*, That the Board of Managers be instructed to transmit promptly to the several Auxiliary Societies the resolution which was adopted last evening, in reference to applications to the several State Legislatures for aid.

On motion of Mr. HAWLEY,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to nominate the officers and managers of the Society for the ensuing year.

The Chair appointed as the committee Mr. SOUTHARD, of New Jersey; Mr. WHITTLESEY, of Ohio; Mr. PHELPS, of New York; Mr. DOUGLASS, of Pennsylvania; and Dr. PROUDFIT, of New York.

The committee, after retiring, returned and made a report of nominations of officers and managers of the Society for the ensuing year, which, after some amendment, was accepted.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16.

The Society met, in pursuance of adjournment, at the lecture room attached to the First Presbyterian Church, at 7 o'clock, P. M. and found the Committee on Auxiliary Relations, which had been appointed on Wednesday, present, and engaged in considering a plan of a report on the subject entrusted to them. The Committee were allowed to continue their deliberations in the presence of the Society. The plan was discussed at length by Mr. SEATON and Mr. GURLEY in opposition to it, by Mr. SOUTHARD in its support, and by Mr. JONES in reply, in opposition, till 8 o'clock, when the meeting of the Society was organized.

SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD, of New Jersey, a Vice-President, took the chair.

Mr. MERCER, chairman of the Committee on Auxiliary Relations, stated that the committee had been employed during the whole of the day in considering the subject committed to them; that its magnitude and complexity were such that they were not yet prepared to agree on a report, but that, in order to

bring the subject in a definite form before the Society for its action, they had agreed to submit *pro forma* as a report, the aforesaid plan, which was accordingly submitted.

Mr. MERCER addressed the Society in explanation and support of the report, and was followed by Dr. PROUDFIT on the same side.

It was agreed that the sense of the Society should be taken on the first resolution contained in the report.

Mr. WHITTLESEY moved an amendment to the first resolution, which was carried. A discussion arose on the first resolution as amended. It was opposed by Mr. GURLEY and Mr. KEY, and supported by Mr. MERCER and Mr. DOUGLASS.

Mr. MERCER offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Society approve the principles of the report of the committee, and that the report be referred back to the committee which reported it, with authority to supply any defects that may appear therein, and to forward the same to the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society, for the purpose of having the same submitted to the associated Auxiliary Societies of New York and Pennsylvania, and the State Society of Maryland, for their consideration and approval.

The resolution was advocated by Mr. MERCER and Mr. CLARKE.

Mr. KEY moved as a substitute for Mr. MERCER's resolution to strike out all after the word "*Resolved*," and insert the following: "That the Auxiliary Societies now having colonies in Africa shall be allowed to appoint their governors for such colonies, and to adopt all such laws for the government of such colonies as they may think proper, not inconsistent with the laws established by the Parent Society, submitting, nevertheless, such laws to the Parent Society, and receiving and considering in a friendly spirit whatever objections may be made to them."

The question being taken on Mr. KEY's substitute, it was decided in the negative.—Yeas 3, Nays 11.

The yeas and nays being called for, were as follows.

Yeas.—Messrs. KEY, LAURIE,\* and SEATON—3.

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\* Dr. LAURIE requests it to be stated that he voted in favor of Mr. KEY's substitute under an impression that it had been expurgated of the words, "submitting nevertheless such laws to the Parent Society, and receiving and considering in a friendly spirit whatever objections may be made to them." Had he been aware that those words were retained, he should have voted against the substitute, it not being his wish to refer to the decision of an Auxiliary Society, the question whether or not its laws conflicted with those of the Parent Institution.

Nays.—Messrs. HAWLEY, WHITTLESEY, MERCER, GALES, PEABODY, PROUDFIT, DOUGLASS, SOUTHARD, GURLEY, CLARKE, and FENDALL—11.

The question on Mr. MERCER's resolution then recurred. Mr. GURLEY moved to amend it by striking out the words "that the Society approve the principles of the report of the committee and."

The motion was supported by the mover, Mr. CLARKE and Dr. LAURIE, opposed by Mr. DOUGLASS, and Mr. PEABODY, and gave rise to a general discussion. It was put to vote, and decided in the negative.

The question on Mr. MERCER's resolution was then put, and decided in the affirmative by the following vote.

Yeas.—Messrs. HAWLEY, WHITTLESEY, MERCER, GALES, PEABODY, PROUDFIT, DOUGLASS, SOUTHARD, and CLARKE—9.

Nays.—Messrs. KEY, LAURIE, SEATON, GURLEY, and FENDALL—5.

The Society then adjourned.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AUXILIARY RELATIONS.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 4, 1837.

*The Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society.*

GENTLEMEN:

The Select Committee appointed pursuant to the resolution of the General Meeting of the 15th day of December last, in their effort to adjust on an equitable and durable basis, the relations which should subsist between the Parent Society, its several Auxiliaries, and those State Societies which are more or less independent of both, found it necessary to look to the relative condition of the Colonies already planted in Africa.

The security, freedom, and happiness of the colonists obviously rest on union among themselves; and while they depend for their nutriment and growth on the exertions and resources of the American Societies to whom they owe their origin, their union in Africa presupposes the harmonious cooperation of their friends and patrons in America.

Accordingly, the Committee have framed a Constitution of

General Government for the various settlements of Liberia, with a view to a reunion of the American Societies engaged in the colonization of Africa.

In framing this Constitution they looked to the history of the first European settlements on this continent; and indulging the hope that the infant colonies of Africa may hereafter attain the strength and prosperity of the former, they have blended the features of some of the provincial governments, with those of the Articles of Confederation and of the present Constitution of the United States.

To assimilate the political institutions of a few settlements of slender resources, dispersed along the shore of a continent sunk in barbarism, to the present governments of the United States, must be the work of time.

It will be both hastened and facilitated, however, by keeping perpetually in view, the model to be copied, and conforming the copy to the original, in each stage of the future progress of African civilization.

Keeping this purpose ever before the friends of that continent, in America, the efforts of the various Colonization Societies of the United States, to advance the improvement of the separate colonies which they have respectively planted, may be indulged, consistently with a due regard to the welfare of all. A laudable emulation at home, may, indeed, stimulate and guide to mutual advantage the same spirit abroad.

The Constitutions, therefore, and municipal laws of the separate Colonies, are left, by the Report, to the discretion of the colonists themselves, and of the American Societies, to whom they look for counsel and support; except so far as is necessary to their internal peace, their common defence, and their intercourse among themselves and with other nations.

The permanent union of the colonists as one people, and of their friends in America in consistent efforts for their prosperity, it has been the chief and anxious care of the Committee to establish and maintain.

Regarding the Constitution and Resolutions which they now transmit to the Board of Managers, as subjects of future amendment, they look to that source of improvement, as an adequate



remedy for such defects of their Plan of Government as may be now apparent: and which time will assuredly multiply in political institutions, designed to be remodeled as experience may suggest, so as to accord with the gradual development of the moral and physical resources of a new empire.

In behalf of the Committee, I have the honour to subscribe myself, Gentlemen, with great respect, your ob't. Serv't.

C. F. MERCER, *Chairman.*

## REPORT.

*Resolved, by the American Colonization Society, That the following Constitution of General Government, for the American Settlements on the Western coast of Africa, be recommended to the adoption of the associated Auxiliary Colonization Societies of New York and Pennsylvania, and to the State Colonization Society of Maryland; and that when the said Constitution shall have been approved by them-and adopted by a majority of the inhabitants of those settlements, it shall be considered as conclusively ratified.*

## CONSTITUTION.

Whereas it has pleased a Gracious Providence to favour with success, the benevolent efforts of the citizens of the United States of America, to plant Christian Colonies of free coloured people, on the western coast of Africa, in order to lay a durable foundation for their future Union, Freedom and Independence, the following Constitution of Government is ordained and established.

### ARTICLE I.

*Sec. 1.* The several colonial settlements planted in Liberia, on the principles of the American Colonization Society, are hereby declared to be united under one Government, to be styled the Government of Liberia.

*Sec. 2.* The Colony of Monrovia and the several Settlements appurtenant thereto, shall make one Colony, under the common title of "Monrovia;" the Colonies at Cape Palmas and Bassa Cove shall maintain their present denomination, or receive such other as the associated Colonization Societies of New York and Pennsylvania, and the Maryland State Society, may hereafter respectively bestow on them.

### ARTICLE II. *Of the Legislative Power.*

*Sec. 1.* There shall be a Legislature, entitled the Congress of Liberia, which shall hold one session, at least, in every two

years, at the town of Monrovia ; or at such other place as the Congress shall from time to time appoint. The first meeting shall be held on the first Monday in December next following the ratification of this Constitution ; and all succeeding meetings shall commence at such periods as the Congress may prescribe.

*Sec. 2.* The Congress shall consist of the Chief Executive Magistrate of each of the Colonies of Monrovia, Cape Palmas, and Bassa Cove, and of five Delegates, to be elected by the Legislative councils of the said Colonies in such manner as they may respectively provide, in the proportion of three for the Colony of Monrovia, and one for each of the other Colonies ; and the said delegates shall receive for their services, such compensation as their respective councils may determine and pay.

*Sec. 3.* The Governor of Monrovia shall preside over the deliberations of the Congress ; and in case of his absence, death, resignation, or inability, such one of the other Colonial Governors as a majority of the delegates present may elect. In the absence of those Governors, a President, for the time being, shall be, in like manner, chosen from the delegates present.

*Sec. 4.* It shall be the duty of the President to call the members to order, and to preserve decorum in the debates and proceedings of Congress, according to such rules as they may adopt for their government. In his absence from the chair, for a period not exceeding one day, he may call on any other member to preside in his place. He shall be entitled to vote in all cases in which he is not personally interested, and shall, moreover, give the casting vote whenever the Congress is equally divided on any question.

*Sec. 5.* The presence of a majority of all the members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may adjourn from day to day till a quorum be formed, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of the absent delegates, in such manner, and in such penalties as the Congress may provide.

*Sec. 6.* The Congress shall be the sole judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of the several delegates thereto, may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly conduct ; and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a delegate: Shall keep a fair journal of its proceedings,

and from time to time, publish the same; except such parts thereof as may, in their judgment, require secrecy : and the yeas and nays of the members, on any question, shall by the desire of any two or more members be entered on the journal. They shall, by the first opportunity, transmit a copy of their entire journal to the American Colonization Society : they shall appoint a Recording Secretary and such other officers as may be necessary to the transaction of business and fix their respective compensation, which shall be paid by the several Colonies on a rateable assessment, according to their respective representation.

In all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, the delegates shall be privileged from arrest, during their attendance in Congress, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate therein, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

*Sec. 7.* No person shall be chosen as a delegate from any Colony who shall be under twenty-five years of age at the period of his election; nor unless he be, at such period, a citizen of Liberia, and have been an inhabitant of the Colony for which he is elected, for at least six months prior to his election.

*Sec. 8.* Congress shall have power to prescribe uniform rules of naturalization for all persons of colour, provided that all persons now citizens of any Colony of Liberia, shall continue to be so, and that all coloured persons emigrating from the United States of America, or any district or territory thereof, with the approbation, or under the sanction of the American Colonization Society; or of any Auxiliary Society of the same, or of any State Colonization Society of the United States, which shall have assented to this Constitution of Government, shall be entitled to all the privileges of citizens of Liberia; except the same shall have been lost or forfeited by conviction of some crime.

*Sec. 9.* They shall have power to fix the standard of weights and measures, until the Congress of the United States of America shall have prescribed some standard of the same, when the American, shall become the standard of Liberia.

*Sec. 10.* They shall have power to settle the value of any African money, in the metallic currency of Liberia, which currency shall, in all other respects, be the same with that of the United States.

*Sec. 11.* In time of war or insurrection, or of imminent danger thereof, they shall have power to emit bills and to borrow money on the credit of Liberia, under such restrictions and limitations as may be provided by the American Colonization Society: and at such times they shall have power to provide a treasury for the common defence, to appoint a treasurer and such other officers or agents as may be necessary to the collection and disbursements of the public money, no part of which shall be appropriated but by an act, or resolution of Congress: the treasury shall be supplied by a rateable assessment of such sums, as may be necessary, upon the several Colonies; which, until a more equitable mode can be provided, shall be in proportion to the number of delegates, in the Congress, elected by each Colony; such sums, to be assessed, collected, and paid by, or in pursuance of the acts, or orders of the respective Legislative Councils of the Colonies, and all expenses incurred for the common defence shall be chargeable upon and paid out of the said treasury.

*Sec. 12.* The Congress shall have power to declare war, in self-defence, and make rules concerning captures on land and water: to raise and support armies in time of actual war; but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer period than two years.

To provide and maintain a navy in time of war.

To make rules for the government of the land and naval forces.

To provide for organizing and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed under their authority; and to appoint over them, when so employed, or select from among them, the General, Brigade, and Regimental Staff officers: and to appoint and commission, for the existing war, all other officers in command thereof, of higher grade than the commandants of companies: reserving to the Colonial Governments respectively, the appointment at other times of all their militia officers, and in time of war, of all officers of militia whose appointment is not hereby vested in the Congress of Liberia.

*Sec. 13.* The Congress shall have power to make treaties with the several African tribes and to prescribe rules for regulating the commerce between Liberia and such tribes: but they shall enter into no treaty or alliance, nor ascertain and assess the sums and expenses necessary to the common defence, nor emit

bills, nor borrow money on the public credit, nor agree upon the number of vessels of war to be built or purchased, or the number of land and sea forces to be raised, without the assent of two-thirds of the members present.

*Sec. 14.* Congress shall have power to render uniform the tariff of duties on foreign imports into the territory of Liberia; but, in doing so, shall give no preference to one port thereof over another; and all such duties shall be collected by, and paid into the treasuries of the respective Colonies under the authority of their respective Legislative Councils.

*Sec. 15.* Congress shall impose no duty on the exports of any Colony, nor shall any Colony impose any duty on the entry or transportation of the produce or manufactures of any other Colony arriving in the same.

*Sec. 16.* The Congress may establish a communication by post, between the several Colonies and fix the rate of postage, but the proceeds thereof shall be paid into the treasuries of the several Colonies in which the same may be collected, and the officers required to sustain such communication, shall be appointed under the authority of the Colonial Legislatures, in such mode as they may respectively prescribe, and be paid such compensation as their respective Colonial Legislatures may provide out of the proceeds of the postage.

### ARTICLE III. *Of the Executive Power.*

*Sec. 1.* The supreme Executive power of the Government of Liberia shall be vested in the Governor of the Colony of Monrovia, whose title shall be "President of Liberia and Governor of Monrovia," and in a council to consist of the several Colonial Governors or a majority of them. The President shall, if empowered, perform the duties of Agent of the United States of America for the reception of recaptured Africans, provided that, if any other person shall be appointed to such agency, he may, also, be a member of the Executive Council with a right to debate, but not to vote on any question.

*Sec. 2.* During the recess of the Congress all vacancies in the several offices created and filled by them shall be filled on the nomination of the President with the advice and consent of the Council, if present—if absent, by the President alone; and all such officers, so appointed, shall hold their offices until the expiration of the ensuing session of Congress.

*Sec. 3.* The President shall be, *ex-officio* commander in chief of the Land and Naval forces of Liberia, and of such portion of the militia as may be called into the service thereof. He shall receive his appointment from the American Colonization Society and shall be removable at their pleasure.

*Sec. 4.* The Executive power of the Colonies of Cape Palmas and Bassa Cove shall be vested in a Governor and such councilors, and inferior officers and agents, as the constitutions adopted for these Colonies by their respective Societies, may provide.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Of the Judicial Power.*

*Sec. 1.* The Judicial Power of the Government of Liberia shall be vested in a Supreme Court, to consist of the President of Liberia and the Governors of the several Colonies, and in such other Courts as the Congress may establish by law; and shall extend to all cases arising under this Constitution of Government, and the treaties and laws made in conformity therewith; to all cases in which controversies shall arise between citizens of other nations, or between such citizens and the colonists; to all cases in which controversies may exist between the Colonies themselves, and to all cases wherein the rights or privileges of any minister, diplomatic agent, or representative of any of the African tribes may be involved.

*Sec. 2.* In all cases between the Colonies themselves, or which may threaten to disturb the peaceful relations between Liberia and other nations, or the several African tribes, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all other cases it shall have appellate jurisdiction only.

*Sec. 3.* The decisions of the Supreme Court shall be conclusive evidence of the construction of the Constitution, treaties, and laws, and with the treaties and acts of the Congress shall have paramount authority to the acts of the several Colonial Legislatures and the decisions of their Courts; from the latter an appeal may be taken whenever those decisions involve the construction of any treaty, act of Congress, or prior decision of the Supreme Court of Liberia.

#### ARTICLE V.

*Sec. 1.* The assent of all the parties thereto, shall be necessary to any amendments of this Constitution; and the American Colonization Society shall have power to provide the mode of ascertaining and proclaiming such assent to any future amendment.

The citizens of the several Colonies shall be entitled in ever Colony to all the rights, privileges and immunities of the citizens of such Colony.

No order of nobility, nor hereditary political distinction of any sort shall be admitted in any Colony. No law shall be passed abridging the liberty of speech or of the press, nor any preference be given to one religious creed, institution, or denomination, over any other; but every person shall be allowed to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience.

No law shall be passed to prevent the people from peaceably assembling to petition for a redress of grievances; nor shall any religious test be enacted as a qualification for office.

The property of no person shall be taken for public use, without just compensation; and in all criminal cases the trial by jury shall be preserved inviolate.

The writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended except in time of actual invasion or insurrection, and the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.

The Committee further report the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That no Auxiliary of the American Colonization Society, unless with the consent of the Parent Society, shall hereafter acquire territory on the western coast of Africa, or plant any settlement or Colony there, or in an interior direction due east from the ocean, any where between the Galinas river and the territory of Kroo Settra, except within the declared boundary of a Colony already planted.

*Resolved*, That effectual means be promptly taken by the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society to purchase the territory on the western coast of Africa, not yet purchased by any American Colonization Society, between Cape Palmas to the south, and the territory of the British Colony at Sierra Leone to the north.

*Resolved*, That a code of laws for Liberia be formed by a joint committee to be appointed by the American Colonization Society, the associated Societies of Pennsylvania and New York, and the Maryland State Society, should they concur in the ratification of the proposed Constitution of Liberia; which code, when supervised by the said Societies and approved by the American Colonization Society, shall be promulgated, under the sanction thereof, and shall be subject to no repeal, alteration, or amendment, by the Congress of Liberia or the Legislative Council of any Colony, without the concurrence of the American Colonization Society.

*Resolved*, That each Auxiliary and State Society shall make quarterly reports to the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society of their proceedings and of their receipts and disbursements. And that while the Parent Society extends its efforts to aid the resources thereof throughout the Union, the several State and Auxiliary Societies who have undertaken to plant and maintain particular Colonies in Africa, shall pay over to the Treasurer of the Parent Society ten per cent. of the sums which they may respectively collect; excepting all such sums as may be granted by the several Legislatures, or by individuals under an express condition inconsistent therewith.

**List of Officers and Managers of the American Colonization Society,  
for the year 1836--7.**

*[Published by order of the Board of Managers.]*

**PRESIDENT.**

**HENRY CLAY**, of Kentucky.

**VICE-PRESIDENTS.**

1. JOHN C. HERBERT, of Maryland.
2. Gen. JOHN MASON, of Virginia.
3. SAMUEL BAYARD, of New Jersey.
4. ISAAC MCKIM, of Maryland.
5. Gen. JOHN HARTWELL COCKE, of Virginia.
6. DANIEL WEBSTER, of Massachusetts.
7. CHARLES FENTON MERCER, of Virginia.
8. Rev. JEREMIAH DAY, D. D. of Connecticut.
9. RICHARD RUSH, of Pennsylvania.
10. PHILIP E. THOMAS, of Maryland.
11. JOHN COTTON SMITH, of Connecticut.
12. THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, of New Jersey.
13. LOUIS McLANE, of New York.
14. J. H. McCLURE, of Kentucky.
15. Gen. ALEXANDER MACOMB, of the District of Columbia.
16. MOSES ALLEN, of New York.
17. Gen. WALTER JONES, of the District of Columbia.
18. FRANCIS S. KEY, of the District of Columbia.
19. SAMUEL H. SMITH, of the District of Columbia.
20. JOSEPH GALES, Jr. of the District of Columbia.
21. Rt. Rev. WM. MEADE, D. D. Assistant Bishop of Va.
22. ALEXANDER PORTER, of Louisiana.
23. JOHN McDONOGH, of Louisiana.
24. SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD, of New Jersey.
25. GEORGE WASHINGTON LAFAYETTE, of France.
26. Rev. James O. ANDREW, Bishop of the Methodist Epis. Church.
27. Gen. STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, of New York.
28. WILLIAM MAXWELL, of Virginia.
29. Rev. WILBUR FISK, D. D. of Connecticut.
30. ELISHA WHITTLESEY, of Ohio.
31. WALTER LOWRIE, of Pennsylvania.
32. JACOB BURNET, of Ohio.
33. JOSHUA DARLING, of New Hampshire.
34. SAMUEL PRENTISS, of Vermont.
35. Dr. STEPHEN DUNCAN, of Mississippi.
36. WILLIAM L. MARCY, of New York.
37. NICHOLAS BROWN, of Providence, Rhode Island.

**MANAGERS.**

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|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Rev. JAMES LAURIE, D. D. | 7. THOMAS SEWALL, M. D.                      |
| 2. Gen. WALTER JONES.       | 8. MATTHEW ST. CLAIR CLARKE.                 |
| 3. FRANCIS S. KEY.          | 9. RICHARD S. COXE.                          |
| 4. Rev. WILLIAM HAWLEY.     | 10. Rev. RALPH R. GURLEY, <i>Secretary</i> . |
| 5. WILLIAM W. SEATON.       | 11. JOSEPH GALES, Sen. <i>Treasurer</i> .    |
| 6. PHINEAS BRADLEY, M. D.   | 12. PHILIP R. FENDALL, <i>Recorder</i> .     |





